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A P P E N D I X  
TO THE  
INDIA COURIER  
EXTRAORDINARY.

CONTAINING  
COPIES OF ALL THE PAPERS  
LAID BEFORE THE  
Honourable the House of Commons,  
BY MR. MORTON,  
FROM THE  
United Company of Merchants of England  
TRADING TO THE  
EAST INDIES,  
RELATIVE TO  
WARREN HASTINGS, Esq.  
LATE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF BENGAL, &c.

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V O L. IV.

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Printed in the Year M.DCC.LXXXVI.

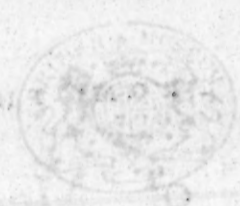
A P P E N D I X

INDIA COURIER  
EXTRAORDINARY

CONTAINING  
COPIES OF ALL THE PAPERS

Honourable the House of Commons

BY MR. W. O. T. O. M.



Printed by the United Company of Printers at London

E A S T I N D I A

WARREN HASTINGS ESQ.

LATE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA

V O L . I I

Printed in the Year MDCCCXXVI

# INDIA COURIER

EXTRAORDINARY.

## APPENDIX

TO

Mr. HASTINGS's Parliamentary Trial.

Fort William, 20th October 1783.

To the Honourable Court of Directors of the Honourable United East India Company.

Honourable Sirs,

I Hereby make my appeal to your Honourable Court, from the acts of this government, on an occasion which highly concerns the interests of this Company, and the honour and faith of the British name. The subject is two-fold, and consists, first, in a series of charges, preferred by the Nabob Vizier, and his Minister Hyder Beg Cawn, against Mr. Bristow, your Resident at the court of Lucknow: And, secondly, in an offer made by the Nabob Vizier of the security of creditable bankers, for the discharge of his past and growing debt to the Company; and accompanied with a conditional prayer, to be freed from the presence and oppressions of Mr. Bristow, and his assistant Mr. Cowper.

Messrs. Wheler, M'Pherson, and Stables, have severally acquitted Mr. Bristow of all the charges which were alledged against him; and they have severally refused to accept the offer of the Nabob Vizier, and to comply with the prayer accompanying it. My opinion, on both points, stands in direct contradiction to theirs.

The proceedings on this affair have been already swelled to so enormous a size, and I have myself contributed so largely to it in my examination of Mr. Bristow's defence, that I shall deem it most consistent with the respect which I feel for the value of your time, to refer you to the minutes of council which comprehend this subject, and for that purpose to enumerate them in the order in which they may afford you the most connected information, viz.

Treaty of Chunar, dated 19th September 1781	—	Vide Governor General's Narrative of the Insurrection at Benares.
Instructions to Mr. Middleton, 23d September 1781	—	Ditto.
Mr. Johnson's recall from his office at Lucknow	—	Secret Conf. 7th September 1782.
Mr. Middleton's recall, and Mr. Bristow's appointment	—	Public ditto, 23d September.
Governor General's notification to the board of his instructions to Mr. Bristow	— — —	Secret ditto, 24th October.
N. B. These instructions are entered on Secret Consultations of 21st April 1783.		

Governor General's minute, on the appointment of Mr. Fowke to the residentship at Benares	— —	7th March 1783.
Complaints against Mr. Bristow	— —	21st April 1783.
		12th May.
		19th.
		22d.
		29th.

Complaints against Mr. Bristow

			13th June.
			7th July.
			24th.
			28th.
			31st.
			11th August.
Minutes of Mr. Wheeler, dated 24th August	—		28th.
Ditto of Mr. Stables, — 30th	—		4th September.
Ditto of Mr. Macpherson 3d September	—		Ditto.
Ditto of Governor General, 29th	—		29th.
Ditto of Ditto — 6th October	—		6th October.

Papers recorded with the above minute of the Governor General.

Letter from Major Palmer to the Governor General, dated 16th September 1783.	
Ditto from Major Palmer to the Governor General, dated 20th September 1783.	
Ditto from Hyder Beg Cawn ditto received 27th.	
Minutes of Mr. Macpherson and Stables, in answer to the Governor General's last.	Secret Conf. 13th October.
Minute of the Governor General in reply, dated 11th October	13th.

Papers recorded with this Minute, viz.

1st. Letter from the Governor General to Hyder Beg Cawn, delivered to Mr. Bristow, with his instructions, and with a power of delivering it to Hyder Beg Cawn, or of suppressing it, at his discretion.	
2d. Information given by Rajah Gobind Ram to the Nabob Vizier on the occasion of Mr. Bristow's proposed appointment.	
3d. Instructions from Major Davy to Major Palmer, by order of the Governor General, on the same subject, dated 6th October.	
Minute of the Governor General, dated 20th October.	Secret Conf. 21st October.
recording his instructions to Major Palmer, dated 6th May 1783.	
Mr. Stables's minute of 24th October, in answer to the Governor General of the 29th September.	Secret Conf. 21st October 1783
Mr. Macpherson's, in answer to ditto	Ditto
The Governor General's of the 2d November, in reply	Ditto
Mr. Macpherson's minute, recording correspondence between Major Palmer and Mr. Cowper	25th.

What may be the future process and issue of this business I cannot foresee: I have borne a very painful and laborious part in it, and shall continue to devote as much of my time and attention to the examination of the materials which may be furnished in the prosecution of it, as my other more urgent calls, if I can have any more urgent, and the impaired state of my constitution will allow.

I fear, in every instance which may impel me to speak of myself in any allusion to the relation of my office to your Honourable Court, to err in the forms of respect. I therefore bespeak your pardon, with the most solemn assurance that I mean not to offend, for the too obvious suggestion implied in the following expostulation: Do not, Honourable Sirs, consider me as an object in the issue of this reference. Your decision upon it, at whatever period it may arrive, will be received by an administration with which I can have no concern; and may I presume to hope, that it will place the executive charge of your commands in the hands of a person who shall be invested with the powers of the office, not disgraced as I have been with an unsubstantial title without authority, and with a responsibility without the means of discharging it. May he at least possess such a portion of exclusive controul as may enable him to interfere with effect in occasions which may tend to the sacrifice of your political credit! This, whatever temporary convenience may dictate a different rule of conduct, applied to every variable contingency so construed, will be found the only principle which can give permanency to your dominion. A belief, however warranted, of a contrary rule of policy influencing your affairs, has been the real and undoubted cause of the late confederacy formed for your destruction, and of the consequent desolation of one great member of your state, and may (which God avert) prove one hidden source of its ultimate dissolution. This doctrine may be ill suited to the character of a man whose removal from office has been declared by high authorities necessary to quiet the minds of the native Princes of Hindostan, and restore their

their confidence in the faith, justice, and moderation of the British nation. A few years will remove the veil of faction which has caused this illusion, and it will be known that all my acts have been regulated by the most sacred observance of treaties, and all my negotiations with truth; yet let me be what I may, I profess the necessity of justice and good faith to the existence of the national interests in these kingdoms. Your Honourable Court has proclaimed it; one great member of the legislative body has solemnly pronounced the same doctrine, and the voice of the people is ready to echo it; yet it is, even with these great authorities, inefficient, since every man who is in the possession of power to violate the national faith, and is impelled by the provocations of ambition, avarice, or vengeance, stronger than the restrictions of integrity and honour, may violate it with impunity. Your wisdom may enforce, in partial applications, the rule which your justice has generally prescribed, and the terrors of parliamentary enquiries may deter gross and notorious abuses of it; but until the legislative power of the nation shall declare it capital in any of its subjects to commit a breach of treaty, or to invade any of the ascertained rights of nations, the greatest of all moral enormities, by which the fate of millions may be closed, and states doomed to annihilation, will remain protected by the law of England from the effect of that justice which dooms to death the meanest invader of private property.

I cannot conclude this address without expressing my concern for the interest and character of a man whom I have proved, unfortunately, though unintentionally, the instrument of involving in a contest which threatens to terminate in his ruin, however upright his intentions may have been, or however laudable in their prosecution—I allude to my military secretary, Major Palmer, whose accidental presence at the court of Lucknow furnished the occasion to the Nabob Vizier and his minister, of transmitting through the channel of his letter their complaints against Mr. Bristow. For the ground of his original deputation, I beg leave to refer you to my instructions, which will be found among the numbers of the packet sent by this dispatch; and for the part which he has borne in relation to the complaints, to his letter, also inserted a number in the same packet. These will afford additional and (if I do not view them with too partial a judgment) incontestible proofs of the delicacy which I have both observed in my own conduct to the Nabob, the Nabob Vizier, and in that which I have prescribed to others; and how little I merit the reproach of that savage treatment of him which Mr. Bristow has pretended to ground on my authority.

Allow me to attest, that with an intimate knowledge of Major Palmer's character, acquired and improved by an intercourse of many years, I do not know a man who possesses a truer sense of honour, a more benevolent heart, a more candid spirit, or more gentle manners; and I believe that this is his character in the estimation of all who know him.

Those whose designs and actions have been drawn from their concealment by the means in which Major Palmer participated, will avail themselves of specious and general maxims to brand him with the character of an incendiary and an informer. Had he refused to act the part which he has done; had he, my avowed and confidential minister, professing himself attached to me by the strongest ties of friendship, been an eye witness of deeds which stamped my character with infamy, and destroyed the credit and faith of the government which he served, and had allowed the cold precepts of that self-interest which is sometimes denominated prudence, to influence his suppression of them, I on my part should have detested him as a monster of ingratitude, falsehood, and infidelity. On which side was he, in such an alternative, to have made his option? To the justice of your Honourable Court, and to the breast of every virtuous and honourable man, I safely appeal for the reply.

I have the honour to be,  
Honourable Sirs,  
Your most obedient,  
and faithful servant,  
WARREN HASTINGS.

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*MINUTES of Mr. Macpherson, Mr. Stables, and Mr. Hastings, in Consultations,  
21st October 1783.*

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Mr. Macpherson.

October 20th.

I Have perused the Governor General's minute, delivered in council the 30th September. For the present I will only take notice of those parts of it which point particularly at myself, and the public state of the question.

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The Governor General has been pleased to suppose, that I had either written or corrected Mr. Bristow's letter to the board, transmitted with his defence. To Mr. Hastings I shall only reply, that he is mistaken in this opinion. The compliments which he pays to the style and temper of the letter are flattering; but if they do not fall to the avowed writer, I know not who has a right to claim them.

As Major Palmer has, upon another occasion, supposed that I transmitted to Mr. Bristow copies of the minutes of the members of this board, or of other public papers, on the subject of the accusations against him, I desire that Mr. Bristow and Mr. Cowper may be called upon to make a declaration, to the truth of which they will hereafter be ready to attest upon oath, in the presence of a proper magistrate, "whether I wrote or corrected, or in any shape composed the letter that accompanied Mr. Bristow's defence; or whether I ever, through any communication, direct from myself, or indirect through others, transmitted to them copies of what any other member of the board, or of what I myself have written upon the subject of the charges against Mr. Bristow, or his defence."

My object in making this proposition is not so much to disprove what a plain negative can answer, as to shew how very different my proceeding has been in this business; it has been such as is entitled to the real approbation of the Governor General.

As to the difference of my proceeding in the respective cases of Mr. Johnson and Mr. Bristow, I shall leave it to the public records to place it in its proper light.

The re-establishment of the French power in India, without any restriction as to the military force they are to keep at Chandernagore renders it, according to my ideas, particularly necessary for this government to continue their Resident at Oude: and to maintain a respectable force in that frontier.

But I mean not to enter into a discussion upon this or any new ground, to shew the advantage to the public from the establishment of a Resident at Oude. The measure has been long adopted, and is now rendered more indispensable, from the late directions of the Court of Directors.

I should at the same time be extremely happy to see an administration established at Oude, and with every one of our country dependant allies, that would preclude as much as possible the internal interference of our agents with the affairs of their countries. Such an interference it will ever be difficult to keep within those bounds which secure the prosperity of the natives, and the regulation of the country, from the effects of opposite and clashing authority.

Had the Vizier and his minister been found competent to secure the peace and good management of the Nabobship of Oude, on the bottom and principles of the Chunar treaty, it would not have been found necessary to have charged Mr. Bristow with the powers which his instructions gave him, and which bound him at least to attempt to introduce a new and a better system.

His representations to the board, of the state in which he found the country, of his expectations and endeavours to carry through the expected arrangements, and of the difficulties that lay in his way; these representations, which the board received in detail, without any disapprobation of his proceedings, and more particularly the independence which he maintained against a minister, whose influence existed in the abuses complained of, were the grounds upon which Mr. Bristow appeared to have been entitled to support.

But should it hereafter appear that Mr. Bristow, instead of being entitled to such support, has endeavoured to pervert the instructions and authority with which he was charged to the purposes of *private rapacity*, he can no longer merit countenance; and I sincerely believe that he will meet with none from any member of the board. There is an expression in the Governor General's minute, which, though it does not charge Mr. Bristow with any act of private rapacity, intimates, that his instructions may be perverted to such. If it does not, I have misunderstood it.

Had the majority of the board directed Mr. Bristow, in consequence of his representations against Hyder Beg Cawn, to urge the Vizier to remove that minister, and make him account for his past administration; had they directed the Resident, in consequence of the oppositions he met with, to insist on reformatations, which must have divested the Vizier and his administration of much of their wonted authority, they might be charged with proceeding with violence.

But, in the present situation of affairs at Lucknow, the Resident of this government does not appear to me to be supported in the exercise of any such oppressive controul.

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On the contrary, his official representations tend to shew that the Vizier's administration hardly treats him with the attention that is due to his office, much less with the respect which ever accompanies power in this country.

(Signed) M<sup>r</sup>. P.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,  
As Secy to the Secret Dept.

Mr. Stables.

24th October 1783.

I beg leave to offer the following remarks on the Governor General's minute of date the 29th of last month, for the consideration of the Court of Directors, and in justification of my own conduct.

On my arrival in Calcutta, in November 1782, I found that Mr. Bristow had been appointed Resident at the court of Oude in September preceding. I have no knowledge of this gentleman, nor have I ever seen him.

When the Governor General presented to the board the complaints of the Nabob Vizier and his minister Hyder Beg Cawn, against the public representative of this government at his court, which the Governor General had received at different periods prior to their being communicated to the board, I immediately perused the former proceeding on the subject, and especially the instructions dictated by the Governor General himself to Mr. Middleton the late, and Mr. Bristow the present, Resident; instructions directing measures to be pursued of a general, strong, and extensive nature. These instructions were, I conceive, for his conduct at the court of Asuph Ul Dowla, a Prince of very doubtful private character, and avowedly known to be labouring under the most abject subjection to his minister, Hyder Beg Cawn, who is also painted in very strong colours in these very instructions, which I earnestly recommend to the attentive perusal of the Court of Directors. To have recalled Mr. Bristow, whose conduct was highly commendable and meritorious when he acted in the same capacity in the year 1775 and 1776, on the simple allegations and intrigues of such characters, I conceive would be destructive to the public interest, and render our government contemptible. After re-considering this subject, and after an attentive re-perusal of the instructions for Mr. Bristow's conduct, I adhere to the sentiments I before delivered in my minutes of the 19th and 22d of May, 31st of July, and 4th of September, without any apprehension that I shall be numbered among the oppressors of the Princes in India.

I cannot pass unnoticed the following expression in the Governor General's minute:—"As to my intentions, and their real objects, I affirm that they have been wholly neglected, nor has any use been made of them, but to pervert them to designs of which I know not the authority, nor can devise any other end, but private rapacity." This expression, I imagine, alludes to the conduct of Mr. Bristow, although no fact is brought in support of such an insinuation. I can only observe for the present, that if, upon sufficient proof, the Resident shall be convicted of private rapacity, I shall deem him unworthy of the trust committed to his charge, and shall readily vote with the Governor General for his recall. The Governor General thinks himself aggrieved by Mr. Bristow's continual appeal to his instructions as the rule and warrant of his conduct: I beg leave to premise, without wishing to offend, or having a desire to diminish the powers legally vested in the executive member of this administration, that the instructions to the Resident at the court of Oude, when read and approved by the members of the board, became the instructions of the board at large, and not of the Governor General as an individual; and that until they are revoked or annulled by a majority of the board, I conceive the Resident is justified in quoting them as authority for his conduct. At the same time, if there are any reformatations or regulations enjoined in the instructions, which are not necessary for the correction of the enormous abuses that are too well known to prevail in the Nabob Vizier's country, I shall cheerfully concur with the other members of the board in altering them.

Respecting what is delivered in the Governor General's minute, wherein he solemnly declares, that the powers of this government are not in his hands, nor exercised by the principles which he professes, I shall be totally silent, submitting the same entirely to the decision of the Court of Directors;

Directors; to whose judgment, with respect and deference. I appeal, and who, I trust and hope, will think it absolutely necessary to order a thorough and compleat investigation into the whole of the transactions at the court of Oude, respecting the Nabob Vizier and his minister.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,  
Actg Secy to the Secret Dept.

Governor General.

2nd November 1783.

Mr. Stables's minute, dated the 24th of October, and Mr. Macpherson's, dated the 20th, were delivered to me by the secretary; the first on the 27th, and the last on the 28th of the same month, being the same days on which I understand them to have been received. I shall make some observations on both.

It is in the first place incumbent on me to clear Major Palmer from the offence of having intentionally cast any reflexion on a member of the board, by a supposition of his having transmitted to Mr. Bristow the charges which had been preferred against him. Major Palmer intimated this in a familiar note, written on an occasion obviously leading to it, and to a man standing in the relation of an intimate friend: it ought not to have passed the breast of this friend, nor would it have been made public, but for the disingenuous use which he made of it. At the same time I will so far justify Major Palmer by my own testimony, as to declare that I did myself expect that Mr. Macpherson would apprise Mr. Bristow of the charges; and as it was written by Mr. Bristow's recriminatory letter of 13th of May last, that he had received early notice of them from some channel, I did as naturally conclude that the information reached him through that of Mr. Macpherson, but did not in that instance impute to him any breach of official trust.

I am happy that I can undeceive Mr. Macpherson in the opinion which he has entertained of the new rights derived to the French from the preliminary treaty. The 13th article, which prescribes the mode of their return to Bengal, simply restores them to the privileges which they before held with their former possessions, but expresses no new conditions added to them; nor can they, by any construction, lay claim to any not expressed; for this article is not, as others are, reciprocal, but binding on our nation only for the allowance of the French to their re-admission into a territory of British jurisdiction. But whatever ground there may have been for a contrary supposition, it is now removed beyond all reach of argument, or possibility of doubt, by the express authority of the Court of Directors, in their circular letter of the 6th of March, in which they declare in terms, that "by this stipulation no intention is entertained on the part of France, to erect a fortification, or to introduce a force which can give just cause of alarm to our government, the intended establishment being entirely commercial." As little ground is there, on the other hand, for any apprehension of a confederacy of the powers of the French and the Nabob Asuph ul Dowlah against this government. The respect which I bear to Mr. Macpherson's talents will not allow me to believe, that he would deliberately use this as an argument, or that he would have applied it even in distant allusion, but as it was required to give effect to one of greater force. As justly may the government of fort St. George deprive the Nabob Wallajau of his inheritance, lest he should unite his arms to those of the French at Pondicherry. The condition of both Princes is equally destitute, and equally oppressed, and the humiliation of their remonstrances shews them to be equally hopeless of any redress, but in the mercy of their oppressors.

Another reason urged for continuing the establishment of a Resident at Oude is, that "the measure has been long adopted." I have been long accustomed to war with words: The Resident whom I first appointed was placed there for the purposes of maintaining the good understanding which had recently taken root between the two governments, and of guarding that of Oude against vexation from our's—it is an abuse of terms to plead the right or necessity of prescription for the continuance of an office which exists only in the name, but with its original powers and objects inverted.

"I am ignorant of any late directions of the Court of Directors, by which the measure is now rendered more indispensable." They have indeed prescribed the payment of the pensions assigned to the Begums through the Resident, and an asylum to be granted to them if they require it, in our own provinces. Both purposes can be as completely and easily fulfilled without a Resident as  
with

with one, since there must be some office or channel for the receipt of much larger sums from the Nabob Vizier than the Begums pensions, and for the grant of an asylum to them in our own provinces. The command of the Court of Directors, without any other intervention, would be sufficient; and the Nabob, in the case of necessity supposed to require it, would be as glad to be freed from them as they to leave him.

What follows in the minute now under examination, involves a position not affirmed, but too pointedly marked to be missed. It is that "the internal interference of our agents with the affairs of the countries of our country dependant allies," is necessary to their better administration. This position, which I have stated in terms borrowed, but transposed from the words of the minute, applies equally to the Nabob Wallajah as to the Nabob Asuph Ul Dowlah. Indeed the cases are too similar to admit of a principle respecting one, that will not equally apply to both; yet I did believe that the sentiments of the members of this government were unanimous concerning the treatment suffered by the former.

When a doctrine is held which is contrary to the common principles of moral, or even of political rectitude, the respect which is due to the opinions of mankind, and the reference which is due in a higher degree to authority, require both that there should be good and strong grounds for the deviation, and that they should be clearly demonstrated. I know no grounds that will justify this, nor are any assigned; and I may therefore also, without assigning any reason, in strict rule, deny the right of any power or state upon earth to usurp the administration of another, because it can better administer it than its proper administration. I also take upon me to deny that any advantages, whether reciprocal or separate, of such an usurpation, can compensate for the injuries which will be sustained by it in the effects of "opposite and clashing authorities," if these are allowed to exist with it, or to the sacrifice of public faith, if it is declared and absolute.

But neither is it allowable in the present case, on any ground of specific engagement, though this is implied by the following paragraph:—"Had the Vizier and his minister been found competent to secure the peace and good management of the Nabobship of Owde, on the bottom and principles of the Chunar treaty, it would not have been found necessary to have charged Mr. Bristow with the powers which his instructions gave him, and which bound him at least to attempt to introduce a new and a better system."

What bottom?—what principles of the Chunar treaty requires that Mr. Bristow should secure the peace and good management of the Nabobship of Owde, and for these purposes to exclude the authority of the Nabob Vizier, and his minister, as incompetent?—I have proved, in long and detailed argument, that no such right, and much less obligation, was conveyed by the treaty, and my expositions of it, in repeated letters and other declarations to the Nabob, made before Mr. Bristow's appointment, absolutely disclaim it.—What powers was Mr. Bristow charged with in his instructions? I have used many arguments to prove that I never gave, as I know beyond all power of argument that I never intended to give, to Mr. Bristow, any authority to exercise "an internal interference in the affairs of the government of Owde." To those proofs I appeal, and with some plea for complaint, that while those remain unanswered, as I believe them to be unanswerable, Mr. Bristow's powers, derived from my instructions, should still be quoted in allusion, as to a fact established and admitted.

Though Mr. Macpherson disclaims the intention of "entering into a discussion of any new ground, to shew the advantage to the public from the establishment of a Resident at Owde," yet I believe he has run over every ground, whether new or old, and both of expediency and right, which could tend to justify the establishment and the continuation of it, viz. the danger of French intrigues, and of the power of the Nabob Vizier united with the French; prescription; the late orders of the Court of Directors; the incompetency of the administration of the Nabob Vizier and of his minister; the treaty of Chunar; and Mr. Bristow's instructions;—and to these I have fully and distinctly replied.

I am now compelled, not unwillingly, to take notice of an argument urged in justification of Mr. Bristow, which escaped my attention when I wrote my examination of his defence. This argument is used in the former minutes, and repeated in those now before me. I shall state it in Mr. Macpherson's words:—

"His representations to the board of the state in which he found the country, of his expectations and endeavours to carry through the expected arrangements, and of the difficulties that lay in his way; these representations, which the board received in detail, without any disapprobation of his proceedings, and more particularly the independence which he maintained against a minister, whose influence existed in the abuses complained of, were the grounds upon which Mr. Bristow appeared to have been entitled to support."

I have

I have already observed, on a similar plea made by Mr. Bristow, concerning the appointment of Mahmud Beg, a trooper, to the Sezawellee of Furruckabad, that "it was very true that Mr. Bristow had informed the board of this appointment, and obtained the approbation of it; and so he might of any other transaction, however exceptionable, by suppressing every information which could render it such." This is precisely the character of every representation which Mr. Bristow ever made to the board, until he was apprized of the complaints which were written against him.—His letters contain frequent references to measures which he advised, to plans which he recommended, and to acts requiring his participation, in which he acquiesced, at the solicitation of the Nabob, but not one which afforded the board the slightest intimation of his using, or intending to use, his own authority. It was not till very late that I knew what had passed; for the Nabob and his minister ceased to correspond with me, and I had other cares which drew off my attention from that quarter. I naturally approved the letters, for I saw nothing in them to disapprove; for however exceptionable his measures were (to repeat my former words) he had precluded all objection, by the suppression of every information which could render them such. I will instance one letter, because it has been particularly mentioned by Mr. Stables, as producing the fullest warrant for his acts, by the detailed information given of them, and no disapprobation of the board following it. The truth is, that I knew no more of the contents of the letter than Mr. Stables; but had it been laid before the board in its proper time, I should have approved it; for it conveyed, and with the most guarded expression, the construction of a line of conduct agreeing with my own sentiments, and diametrically opposite to that which he did actually observe, and for which he is now defended on the plea of expediency, the ground of his instructions, and the right of treaty.

The following extracts, from Mr. Bristow's letter to the board, dated the 21st of January 1783, which is that in question, will prove what I have advanced:

"And I shall now submit to your consideration the plans which I think it my duty to recommend to the Vizier."

"I have procured an assignment in their favour for nine lacks of Rupees."

Memdm. This is the assignment which Mr. Bristow is charged with having obtained, by compelling the minister to issue the Nabob's shokas or mandates for them without his knowledge, and which the Nabob afterwards prevailed upon Mr. Bristow, by other sacrifices, to withdraw and cancel.

"This corps being likewise on the spot, the Vizier may in person review and muster them, in which I propose having the honour to attend him."

"I have procured certain funds for the payment of his corps, and shall strongly recommend it to the Vizier to withdraw the detachments of his Rasseleh from the interior parts of the country, &c."

"I shall, without further delay, advise the Vizier to abolish the practice of detaching troops in small bodies."

"The Honourable Governor General's commands of 23d September 1781, directing that the Vizier should be advised to abolish the system of assignments to his Mootayena."

"Probably the end of the year, as required, before his Excellency will be able totally to abolish the system of assignments. In such instances, where it can be immediately executed, I shall exert my endeavours to persuade the Vizier no longer to postpone so necessary a measure."

"Unless the Vizier acts directly in the business, by making the circuit of such districts as are the most deserving his attention, and deputing confidential agents to the remainder, the evil would be a long time before it could be completely remedied."

"I hope the advantage to be derived from it will appear so evident to his Excellency, that he will not only sincerely and heartily assent to the measure, but support it by every exertion of his authority."

"I now beg leave to submit to your consideration the heads of the plan which I have recommended to the Vizier."

"Or any great officer of state to whom you may direct me to advise the Vizier to intrust so important a charge."

"This is the outline of the plan I have proposed for regulating the Vizier's household."

In

In the preceding extracts an uninformed reader would naturally conclude, that Mr. Bristow acted solely as the Nabob's adviser and assistant, with the full concurrence of the Nabob, and hearty acquiescence in his assistance; for the Nabob is stated to be the actor and the principal, and Mr. Bristow's interference following, as a point of consequent duty.

Yet, will it be believed, that almost every act thus represented was forced upon the Nabob against his will, and forms the material part of his complaints against Mr. Bristow, for the usurpation of his sovereignty, and insult on his person?

I desire that the other letters of Mr. Bristow may be tried by the same test; they will terminate in the same conviction.

I certainly meant not, by any expression in my former minute, to charge Mr. Bristow, or any other person, with private rapacity; nor do I know why so much stress is laid on it in both the minutes now before me. Had I known, and could I have proved any instance of private rapacity, I would have affirmed it in plain terms. I never insinuate, nor in the whole course of my political contests have I ever descended to the use of an expression meant to convey a sense, which I wished to elude in the direct expression of it. I have somewhere affirmed, and I now repeat, that the power claimed and exercised by Mr. Bristow may serve the purposes of private rapacity, and can serve no other purpose. It will not be denied that the absolute power of receiving and disbursing all the public wealth of the province may be converted to that purpose, and that it will require an approved integrity to withstand so strong a temptation; and it demands an evidence stronger than Mr. Bristow's assertion, or even the judgment of the board confirming it, to prove that the Company's debt cannot be realized without it.

Of the moderation of the majority of the board, as it respects their intention, I cannot judge: It is true that they have neither directed Mr. Bristow to urge the Vizier to remove his minister, nor to prosecute him, on the plea of making him account for his past administration (a dreadful suggestion, even though Mr. Bristow should not be his judge) nor by any specific act divested the Vizier and his administration of much of their wonted authority, neither was it necessary; they have rejected the appeal of the Vizier and his minister, and left Mr. Bristow in the possession of an uncontrouled and irresistible authority, which requires no further interposition of the powers of the board, than that which may serve for the purpose for which it is since solicited, of the gratification of private vengeance. What may be yet in the intention of the board, I know not; and scarcely dare to trust to my imagination in the apprehension of what evils may yet lie concealed beyond the clouds which involve this transaction in the actual state of it. I will however so far trust, with a degree of assurance, to the moderation of the majority, that they will hesitate at least to give a more decided sanction to the acts of Mr. Bristow, after the recent experience which they have received of his intemperance in his last letter.

I regret the time which I have bestowed on this subject, and yet more the quantity of matter composing it, in which the truth suffers the risk of being wholly lost. Yet, whatever may be the result, I am resolved that I will devote what further portion of labour may be exacted from me, and my health and strength will allow, to the last defence of a cause which I deem the cause of honour and humanity.

In the mean time, that the question with which it originated may not be forgotten in the voluminous discussion of it, I will hereto subjoin the terms of it.

The Nabob Vizier complains, that Mr. Bristow has assumed the powers of his government, and the sanction of his name and seal, without his authority or knowledge, insulted his person, and thrown his country into disorder; and as the debt which is due and growing from the Nabob to the Company is used as the pretext for this violent conduct, he has offered to give the security of bankers of honour, credit, and responsibility, for the regular and full discharge of the debt; requesting, as the condition of this engagement, that he may be freed from the presence and oppressions of Mr. Bristow, and his assistant Mr. Cowper. I maintain that we ought to accept this offer, and the other members of the board reject it.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,

Actg Secy to the Secret Dept.

THE Governor General lays before the board the following letter and enclosure from the Nabob Vizier.

*From the Nabob Vizier; received November 29th 1783.*

Usual Introduction.

In all due attention to the rights of friendship towards the Company, the gentlemen of the council, and yourself, I have at no time been deficient from my regard thereto; I have so acted as to give satisfaction to the gentlemen heretofore appointed to this place, and they likewise, in managing the concerns of the Company, attended to the preservation of my honour and dignities, so that there was no opportunity for censure or complaint on either side.

In the year 1189 Fuffulle, Mr. Johnson adopted certain measures calculated to bring disgrace upon me, which being made known to the gentlemen of the council and yourself, your equity and kindness induced you to call the above gentleman to an account. Mr. Bristow, from the time of his arrival has done, and still does, every thing that can tend to depreciate my authority. Repeated accounts have been transmitted to you of his injurious conduct; but as yet no justice has been done, or due notice taken of them, and the above gentleman is now, more than ever, bent on involving me in new difficulties and disgrace.

I have always been in want to discharge the Company's Tunkaw by assignments on the Aumils of my Sircar; and the amount received from them being placed to my credit in the Company's accounts by their former Residents, they again received Juaudaud from me for the balances that might remain. If the assignments on the Aumils fell short from any unforeseen accidents, the Resident did not require the deficiency from them, for there could have been no advantage in so doing; and thus the Company's concerns were well conducted. Mr. Bristow, without my knowledge or consent, has thought proper to put Khaujah Ain ud Deen, Aumil of Bareilly, &c. in the province of Rohilcund, under confinement. To detail the particulars of this transaction would be tedious.

He has proceeded thus against the Khaujah on accusations false and groundless. No objections have been made by me to peremptorily and threateningly calling on my Aumil for the payment of his monies; on the contrary, I myself so call on them, when necessary; but Mr. Bristow has, of his own accord, confined this Aumil, and still keeps him in confinement; and having included his balance in the accounts of the present year, has forcibly taken Juaudaud from me, and he means not to leave me any thing for my necessary expences. Having agreed to his requisition of Juaudaud for the Khaujah's balance, which he had added to the accounts of the present year, I repeatedly, by letter and message, applied for his release, but he still keeps him in confinement. To your candour I refer the consideration of the disgrace thus thrown upon me in consequence of his thus imprisoning my Aumils by his own authority; a mode of proceeding never adopted by any of his predecessors. The Aumils dependant upon my Sircar are loaded with dishonour, whilst those dependant on Mr. Bristow, such as Ismael Beg, and others, who were appointed in the last year only, and who, though there has been no drought in their Mahals, have greatly reduced the established Jumma, have far exceeded the usual allowances for expences, and have fallen in arrears of the payment of the Company's Tunkaw granted on them, are still continued in possession of their Mahals, and are his confidential ministers and advisers. No demand is made on them for the deficiency of Jumma, increase of expences, or balance of the Company's Tunkaw; but the latter is charged on me included in the accounts of the present year, and Juaudaud required for the amount; to which I have not the power to object. Others of his measures and orders are as follows: I have always been wont to discharge a part of the Company's Tunkaw by Juaudaud, on the payments of Ilmas Ali Khan, from which I likewise received a part for my own expences. This year Mr. Bristow has withheld my Jardaad for the latter my necessary disbursements; and though I have repeatedly desired him, both by letter and message, to take a part only of the payments from Ilmas Ali Cawn into the Company's Tunkaw, as heretofore, to let me receive a part from my expences, he will not comply; but has written to Ilmas Ali Khan, saying, "I will receive the whole of the monies due from you; you will pay no part thereof to any person whatever, if you do I will not give you credit for it in your accounts." He likewise laid injunctions on Ilmas Ali Khan's Vackeel, saying, "If his Highness requires any money from thence, you shall not give it." Thus having put a stop to my necessary expences, and issued orders declaring, that if any thing was paid to my order, it should not be admitted in account;—what authority is left me, either with the Aumils or the people? Add to the foregoing, that the difficulties

difficulties I labour under from the present scarcity are such as require my most earnest supplications to God. One other of the above gentleman's proceedings is as follows: The change and dismissal of Aumils was talked of and determined by him in the month of Jeyte; and those who assisted him with their advice were all of them encouraged to expect employment. The engagements entered into for the year expired at the end of Badvon; and the Zemindars and Ryots, always ready to take advantage of events, hearing of the proposed new arrangements, withheld the payment of their monies; at length, in consequence of Mr. Bristow's injunctions, the change of Aumils was entered upon; such well-founded reasons as were offered in opposition on this head, were disregarded by him: I was left without remedy, and acted as he directed. By this measure large balances remained due from the country on the remaining Kists of the past year, which has become a plea for deduction with the present Aumils. Thus I have suffered the loss of lacs of rupees; and Mr. Bristow having carried the balances of the Aumils to my account in the accounts of the present year, exacts Jardaad from me, and I am unable to object to it.

These measures and proceedings of the above gentleman are not done without deliberation and design. To enter into particulars would be endless. In addition to this, every one is impeached by him with multiform, false, and groundless accusations. Thus situated, let me conjure your equitable interposition. How can I support my existence now that Mr. Bristow's persecutions, and my disgrace, are arrived at the pitch they are? I implore redress; let me obtain justice.

Concludes as usual.

\* \* \* \* \*

Governor General.—Mr. Bristow, in the letter last read, avowedly mentions both his previous intention of confining Khauja Ain ul Deen, one of the Nabob's principal Aumils; his actual execution of that intention; the Nabob's application, in writing, to Mr. Bristow for the release of the Aumil; and Mr. Bristow's refusal to comply with it. The Nabob also complains of this transaction in the letter to me, which is entered above; and of a letter written by Mr. Bristow to Almas Ally Cawn, containing the declaration of his intention to take the full produce of the Mahals which were under Almas's charge, for part of the Company's assignment, with a dictatorial prohibition to give any part of the produce of it without his (Mr. Bristow's) permission.

These are acts of power so contrary to every pretension that this government can assert, or has ever authorized Mr. Bristow to exercise, that I must request the Board to determine, whether they have or have not their sanction, and whether he shall be hereafter permitted to exercise the like power independently of the Nabob, and without respect to his concurrence. This, in effect, will determine the question which I have proposed in my first minute.

I must also take notice of the reasons assigned by Mr. Bristow for refusing to comply with the Nabob's requisition for the release of Khaujah Ain ul Deen; namely, "that the Nabob's letters may, in the words of his instructions, be considered as dictated by Hyder Beg Cawn." A similar expression occurs in a former letter of Mr. Bristow's, dated 14th October; in which he says, "Had the salutary orders of the Honourable the Governor General been received with a cordiality at this court equal to the zeal and earnestness with which they were proposed; and a steadiness shewn by the Prince in the execution of them, answerable to the wisdom of the counsel which produced them, the affairs of Oude would long since have assumed an aspect very different from that in which they now appear." This indecent and very disrespectful allusion to my orders for acts done in gross and shameful violation of them, cannot receive the countenance of the Board; for, surely, it is indecent and disrespectful, after the past complaints, made by myself as well as the Nabob, against Mr. Bristow, for his perversion and disobedience to my orders, to appeal to them for his warrant, with epithets of affected praise; nor is his disobedience of my express injunction to act in every instance in conformity to the Nabob's will and inclinations palliated, but, on the contrary, exaggerated, by his allusion to a remote observation made by me upon a different and special subject, and neither expressing nor implying any instruction for his conduct.

For these reasons, and because I do most solemnly declare, that Mr. Bristow does not either confine himself to my instructions, or pay the least regard to them, I do again conjure the Board to determine the line of his conduct, and to give him such instructions as in their judgment shall be proper and requisite for the effectual execution of the system which he has himself established, and which the Board has hitherto permitted, if it be their determination that such a system shall be maintained; or such other instructions as in their better judgment they shall think proper to frame; and this I conceive to have become indispensably necessary, by the application made by Mr. Bristow himself for his guidance on the occasion of the declaration made to him by me, in conformity

formity to one made some time preceding by myself to the Board, that the instructions under which he acted, or pretended to act, were no longer my instructions.

Some reply must be made to this reference, or Mr. Bristow will be left without authority, and (what is worse) without a controul; therefore, the Board must either adopt those instructions, and call them their own, or must give others. If they declare them to be their own, it will be necessary to explain those parts which are construed by Mr. Bristow in a sense which I have affirmed, and do affirm, to be contradictory of my own; and as I have no longer the right or power of explaining my own instructions, it seems to be but reasonable that the Board, having approved the line of conduct pursued by Mr. Bristow, should either explain their sense of those instructions, or give him new.

I forbear, in this place, to state the points which will require the determination of the Board, because they might lead to a disagreeable as well as unprofitable discussion, which I yet hope may be avoided.

Ordered, That the foregoing minute from the Governor General be sent in circulation.

Read again the Governor General's minute, entered in consultation 6th of October last, proposing the appointment of Mr. Willes to be Resident at Furruckabad, with the papers accompanying it.

Ordered, That these papers be circulated to the members of the board.

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*Consultations, 27th December 1783.*

THE following minute having been delivered on 23d instant to the secretary, by Mr. Wheler, Mr. Macpherson, and Mr. Stables, with orders to take it to the Governor General, was shewn by the secretary to the Governor General accordingly.

The subject of the Governor General's minutes of the 16th December, and the alternatives which he states to be necessary for the Board to adopt, relative to the management of affairs in the Nabob Vizier's country, are so important, that we agree to take the same into our serious consideration, and we propose to record our opinion thereon at the next meeting of the Board in this department. The letter from Mr. Bristow of the 10th December, and sent in circulation, calls for some decided resolution upon these subjects.

(Signed) { Edward Wheler,  
John Macpherson,  
John Stables.

The following minute, prepared by the Governor General, previous to his seeing the foregoing minute from Mr. Wheler, Mr. Macpherson, and Mr. Stables, was circulated by his orders to the other members of the Board on the 23d instant.

Governor General.—Mr. Bristow's representation of the conduct of the bankers, in the letter last addressed to the Board, and his preceding letter of the 14th October, is so consistent with his usual dealing with the Board, that I will unravel it for the conviction of the Board, and hope that they will not fail to take due notice of it: I must premise that he is in charge of the most important station in the service, both with relation to its political magnitude, and the great pecuniary interest attached to it; and that therefore his reports ought to be both regular, complete, and strictly just, in every point of business, and that the neglect of this duty, but more especially a perversion of it, is in the highest degree criminal.

Mr. Bristow, in his letter of the 14th October, after stating that Gopaul Doss, the banker, had lent to the Company fifteen lacks of rupees in June last, and promised as much more at a short period as should make the loan of thirty lacks complete, complained that he both evaded the performance of this condition, agreement, and engagement (for such are the terms which he variously uses in the same sentence) and had even presumed to demand payment of the first loan.

The

The Board, in their reply, dated the 21st November, required a copy of the engagement on which Mr. Bristow founds his claim; and how does he answer it? he refers the Board for information to an extract from a letter written to the Board on the 3d of June, which states the original transaction in a light totally different; and adds the Board's answer, approving the loan; a translation of the bond given by him for the first loan, engaging to repay it in the manner claimed by Gopaul Dofs; and transmits a further extract of his letter of the 14th of October, containing his representation of the failure of engagement on the part of Gopaul Dofs. But though he quotes the order of the Board, directing him to transmit "Copies of the engagement with Gopaul Dofs, and to explain in the clearest manner all the circumstances attending this transaction;" and immediately subjoins his reply in terms which mark an intention to give the satisfaction thus pointedly required; yet he neither transmits copies of the engagement, nor gives any explanation of the transaction: but as he has neglected this duty of respect, at least, if not of obedience, I will do it for him; and shew that he has either indecently misrepresented the whole transaction, or, which I rather hope will prove to be the case, has perplexed and confounded the subject, by his eagerness to force it to a connection with his favourite object, the crimination of Hyder Beg Cawn. My exposition shall not embarrass the Board, nor fatigue their attention: for it shall be confined to the materials furnished by Mr. Bristow himself, in the dispatch immediately before us.

In the extract of his letter to the Board, dated the 3d of June, he mentioned his "having concluded an agreement with the house of Gopaul Dofs for fifteen lacks of rupees, that he expected to receive the bills in the course of two or three days, and should then commence another negotiation for 15 lacks more; and so on, until he obtained as large a sum as he was able, &c." That "he did not chuse to inform the bankers of the sum total he must require, as they would have exacted higher terms than he should think it justifiable to grant;" and that "the plan which he proposed for repayment of the bankers was, to engage that, after supplying the disbursements of the troops under the command of Colonel Morgan, and Colonel Sir John Cumming, and the expences of the Resident's office, all surplus receipts shall be paid to them;" and this engagement appears accordingly concluded in the terms of the bond.

Nothing can be clearer nor less ambiguous than this explanation of the transaction, when it was offered as a proposition for the option of the Board. The engagement is stated in terms to be limited to 15 lacks; and the intention of extending it is also declared to have been most cautiously withheld from the knowledge of the Bankers, and the condition of payment is defined; yet in the reviewal of this transaction on the 14th of October, Mr. Bristow affirms, that "when in June last he procured from the House of Gopaul Dofs the sum of 15 lacks of rupees, he had a promise of so much more, at a short period, as should make the loan to our Government 30 lacks complete." Adding, that Gopaul Dofs had broke his engagement, and even demanded payment of the sum of the actual loan; and he connects this information with the charge of breach of engagement in such a manner, as implies the same criminal construction of it, though he at the same time furnished the Board with the most ample warrants for Gopaul Dofs in making the demand for payment, in his confession of the original engagement, and in the translation of the bond, which expresses the condition of payment, and which allows only a preference to the charge of the two military corps and of his own office, after which it was positively agreed to apply the produce of the growing collections to the discharge of the bond.

I pass over Mr. Bristow's charges against Gopaul Dofs for the insolence of employing an agent of his own nomination, in opposition to the choice of Mr. Bristow, and for "abandoning those prudent maxims by which alone as merchants they ought to have regulated their conduct," in declining to trust Mr. Bristow with a second loan of 15 lacks (no small sum, nor the proper subject of personal compliment) after the refusal to discharge the first. The claim of right to dictate to a banker, whom he shall employ as the agent of his affairs, and to appropriate all the money which the banker can raise, and for which he himself has occasion, loses both its degree and quality of presumption in comparison with the usurpation of the rights and power of an independent State, and with the insolence which could prescribe to a Sovereign Prince the number of horses which he should be allowed to ride, or the dishes which should be cooked for his table. While I remark the inconsistency of Mr. Bristow's representation, I am yet willing to suppose, as I before suggested, that he may have erred in the expression, but not in the fact, and that he may mean to allude to some agreement made by Gopaul Dofs, after the settlement and advance of the first loan, though he affirms them to have taken place at the same time: But to establish this solution of the difficulty, it will still remain to prove that Gopaul Dofs did engage to make a further loan; and for this purpose, Mr. Bristow must comply with the orders already so clearly expressed in our letter of the 25th November, "To transmit copies of the engagement with Gopaul Dofs, and to explain in the clearest manner all the circumstances attending this transaction." It is not the custom of bankers to make verbal engagements; and Salla Cashaul

Chund, Gopaul Doss's agent, has assured me, on the authority of his master, that he made no such engagement.

The following Minute, from the Governor General, was sent with the foregoing on the 23d instant to the other members of the Board, for their perusal.

Governor General.

The subject of Mr. Bristow's letter of the 1st of November is alarming, not on account of its immediate effects, for they are past, but as it indicates so total a dissolution of the powers of the Vizier's government as must have a tendency to excite similar and repeated instances of sedition. I shall make but one brief remark upon Mr. Bristow's state of this transaction, which is, that a tumult of the most flagitious kind was suffered to manifest itself in a gradual progress of some months, till it grew to such magnitude as threatened the life of the Nabob Vizier himself, during a period, as Mr. Bristow's letter states, of three days, and I have reason to believe that it was of yet longer duration; and that Mr. Bristow, in all this important interval, appears to have stood by a quiet passive spectator, although he had a regiment of the Company's sepoys, and his own body guard, which is nearly equal to a regiment of sepoys, at his instant command; and might with such a force have repelled the whole strength of the Nabob Vizier's military establishment, had it been united in so loose and unconnected a species of hostility. This is a point which he ought to explain; for if he had it in his power to suppress the meeting, and did not, his conduct was criminal in the last degree; if otherwise, it concerns both his credit and the honour of our Government that the doubts which he has thrown on his own conduct should be removed by a clear exposition of it.

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*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 31st December, 1783.*

THE following Minute having been received by the Secretary, on the 28th instant, at noon; from Mr. Wheler, Mr. M'Pherson, and Mr. Stables, it was sent immediately by the Secretary to the Governor General; and the minute, in reply to it, which is entered after it, having been received from the Governor General in the evening, was immediately circulated to the other members of the Board.

The Governor General, in his minute of the 16th instant, having declined proposing or joining in any order that may be issued concerning the advices lately received from Oude; having likewise stated a necessity which may exist, for authorising Mr. Bristow, in the event of our support of him in the authority which he exercises, to assume avowedly the government of the Vizier's country, and to appoint agents and officers of Government in the name of the Company; and having called upon us to adopt the instructions given to Mr. Bristow, and call them those of the Board, (disavowing them to be any longer those of the Governor General) or to make out other instructions for the guidance of Mr. Bristow;—we deem it necessary to take these respective subjects into our most serious consideration, and to consider maturely what measures are most likely, in the present distressed situation of the Company's finances, to recover the heavy balances due to them by the Vizier, and to secure the tranquillity of his dominions.

As it is our most earnest wish that such measures should be adopted, and as we should think ourselves more fortunate in meeting any arrangement that may favour the public good, and coincide with the Governor General's sentiments, than to establish, on the clearest ground of argument, the force and justice of the opinions which we have already recorded relative to the affairs of Oude, we shall not recapitulate here what is already in reference to the Court of Directors; we shall not dwell on those obligations which bind every member of the Government to adopt and support the resolutions of the majority of its members; nor shall we even regret that the Vizier and Hyder Beg Cawn should ultimately prevail in effecting the removal of the public minister of this Government from Lucknow; if that removal can be productive of real and immediate advantage to the Company, and of more unanimity in our councils.

Upon the same principles we hope, if it shall be the mature and decided resolution of this Government to continue the present Resident at Lucknow, and give him the instructions and powers which the occasion renders necessary for the recovery of the Company's balances, and the regular payment of their troops, that the Governor General will not think of withdrawing the very essential support of his name and authority from those measures which the majority of the Board may

may think requisite for the maintenance of the Company's interests in Oude. To withhold that support, would be in effect to render our utmost exertions of no public utility; for as it has been the custom to carry on all correspondence with the Vizier in the name and under the seal of the Governor General, a deviation from this rule would not only invalidate the force of our representations, but leave ground for those evils which are to be removed.

The object of appointing a Resident at the Vizier's court, as well as of the instructions which should be the guide of his conduct, must be principally directed to the payment of the Company's claims upon the Vizier, and the good order of his government.

Mr. Bristow, appointed to this station by the Company, and furnished with the most ample powers and instructions, has not succeeded in recovering the Company's balances, or in acting to the satisfaction of the native administration of the Vizier's country. The Vizier and his acting minister have complained against him, and request not only his removal from Oude, but that the English Residency should be entirely withdrawn. Mr. Bristow has on the other hand stated the oppositions he has met with in carrying through the measures which he understood to be recommended to him in his instructions; and he now states, in various representations, that unless he is fully authorised and supported by this Government, he cannot secure the necessary receipts of money and provision for the absolute wants of the troops, which the Company have stationed for the protection of the Vizier's country, and to prevent evils the most alarming to the public interest.

The alternative, therefore, which the Governor General has stated, in his minutes of the 16th December, presses for adoption in one way or other. In other words, this Government must effectually resolve to trust to the Vizier's administration for the payment of the Company's claims, and the maintenance of their troops in his country, or the Resident must be ordered to exercise the powers of his office, to recover those assignments that have been granted on the Vizier's revenues, by making the Aumils answerable to the Company for the debt.

As we have approved of Mr. Bristow's management hitherto, and as that approbation has been fully stated upon the Company's records, and as we have further a high opinion of the merits and integrity of Mr. Cowper, nominated by the Company to succeed Mr. Bristow, we cannot think ourselves justified in assenting to their removal at the request of the Vizier's administration, if the object of that removal was merely a change of agents. On the contrary, the opposition of Hyder Beg Cawn to these gentlemen is, in our opinion, a convincing proof that they have not yielded to that influence which was the ground for removing the former Resident.

If, therefore, it should be thought expedient to recall Mr. Bristow and Mr. Cowper from Oude, and make an experiment of Hyder Beg's agency, as proposed in his own and the Vizier's letters, received 7th April, we must explicitly declare, for such is our real opinion, that Mr. Bristow has our approbation for his exertions to discharge the duties of his station; that in the event of the Residency being now withdrawn, and afterwards restored, from a failure on the part of the Vizier's agents, we shall think Mr. Bristow entitled to succeed to the charge of the office, and Mr. Cowper to the succession to it, as ordered by the Company; and that it will be proper that the Vizier and his ministers should be informed in letters, to be delivered by Mr. Bristow, of these several resolutions of the majority of the Board.

To bring the question at once to issue, we think it expedient, in the present situation of affairs, to agree to the recall of Mr. Bristow from Oude, with the preceding reservations, and to withdraw the Residency entirely, according to the original request of the Vizier and his acting minister, provided the present balance due to the Company of        lacks, is paid into the Company's treasury, by bills on creditable bankers, payable, half in one month, and the remaining half in two months, from the date of Mr. Bristow's surrender of his office to the Vizier; and provided further, that the current kits for the payment of the brigade at Caunpore, and of Sir John Cumming's detachment, are paid regularly and monthly by the minister to the Company's paymasters in Oude.

We shall agree to this arrangement, on the express condition that the Governor General will hold himself responsible to the Company and the public for the faithful performance of these engagements on the part of the Vizier and his minister, as well as for the security of the internal peace of the country: To maintain which, and enforce these arrangements, we shall give him our utmost support.

Should the Governor General think this responsibility more than he should undertake, and should be of opinion that the contest between the Resident's authority and that of the native administration in Oude has already created embarrassments too great for the success of his plan, he leaves

leaves no alternative, but that of giving the orders of a divided administration to the present Resident to execute the duties of his office, and to consider his instructions from the Governor General, which are already in his possession, as those of the Board, with any future explanations they may think it necessary to give relative to some articles of them.

E. W.  
J. M<sup>P</sup>.  
J. S.

A true Copy.  
E. Hay,  
Secy.

28th December, 1783.

Governor General.

I have read, with more than common attention, the minute signed by the other members of the Board, and delivered to me this morning.

I sincerely regret the loss of time and of trouble which they have bestowed on the subjects of my minutes, recorded on the 16th instant. Nothing was further from my intention or expectation. Possibly my sentiments, delivered verbally on the instant occasion which produced them, were defective in precision; or possibly their direct meaning has been overlooked, in too extensive a consideration of the subject. I had no other design or object than to warn the Board of the dangers which might attend the Company's interests in the government of Oude, and those of our own provinces, in their relation to it, by the irregular and unauthorized power assumed by Mr. Bristow, their Resident, and by the indecision of the Board on the points referred to them, both by the Nabob Vizier, and by the Resident himself. I stated to the Board, that if it was determined to support Mr. Bristow's pretensions, it was necessary to go further, and authorize him to avow the power which he had assumed, and to exercise it in the Company's name: and in that case I desired that my instructions might be withdrawn, and others framed by the Board for his guidance, that the responsibility might rest, as it ought, on them, for the system which had the sanction of their approbation, against my judgment, and myself exonerated from it. I conceive, that in this requisition, I have insisted on nothing which is contrary to reason, or which can be denied me on any ground of reason.

I have not in any wise disclaimed the "obligations which bind every member of the Government to adopt and support the resolutions of the majority of its members."—Neither have I said, that I should "withdraw the support of my name and authority from those measures which the majority of the Board may think requisite for the maintenance of the Company's interests in Owd." I am sorry that these suppositions have been used in application to me, for I know not what may be the "resolutions of the majority of the members" of the Board, which may require me to acknowledge their obligation on me; nor "the measures which the majority of the Board may think requisite for the maintenance of the Company's interests in Owd."

The Board has yet formed no resolutions—no measures: When they shall have formed them, I shall deem them binding on me to give them all the support which my name and authority can give them; but with this reservation, that if they shall be repugnant to my sense of the principles of honour, justice, and public faith, I shall deem the obligation void, and appeal to that power which imposed it for my acquittal; knowing that no power upon earth can impose upon me the obligation of doing what is morally wrong, and conceiving it to be a species of treason to apply it even in the most remote supposition to the high and most respectable authority to which I allude.

As to the seal of the Governor General, or his special correspondence, surely these forms will not be required for the purpose of announcing to the Nabob Vizier the annihilation of his authority, and the elevation of Mr. Bristow's in its stead; if such shall be the final determination of the Board, an event which I am warranted by the terms of the minute before me to suppose, there will be no need to tell the Nabob Vizier in form, what will be visible to all the world, and what he, if he has feelings, will be the first to feel and know.

Having thus explained the sentiments which I have before submitted to the Board, and disclaimed the constructions which have been applied to them, I must decline to take upon myself the responsibility which is stated to be required of me, in the event of their consenting to remove Mr. Bristow, and his assistant, Mr. Cowper.

The

The members of the Board have furnished me with the most powerful argument both to refuse it and to justify the refusal, by the blank space which they have been obliged to leave in the place where the sum ought to be expressed, which was to specify the present balance due to the Company, and one object of my responsibility. This is not an inaccuracy, for the Board know not the present balance which is due from the Nabob Vizier to the Company. It stood, at the close of Mr. Bristow's account of the 31st October, at 51,25,184. 11. 2. To what amount it may have since accumulated, I cannot conjecture, for I have no materials; but I believe it impossible for the Nabob Vizier "to pay one half" even of this sum into the Company's treasury by bills on creditable bankers, payable in one month, and the remaining half in two more from the date of Mr. Bristow's surrender of his office to the Vizier; nor, if the Nabob Vizier would engage to pay it, and I believed him capable of paying it, "would I hold myself responsible to the Company, and to the Public, for the faithful performance of such an engagement," because I do not think it consistent with truth, or the regard which every man ought to pay to his own reputation, to bind himself to the performance of acts which depend solely on the ability and will of another.

It is not my desire that the other members of the Board should make any concessions to my opinions or wishes. They will act as they shall best judge, from the superior consideration of the duty which they owe to the honour, credit, and interests of the Company. I only press them to decide, and I am sorry that they should hold out to me so desperate an alternative, as that which is too plainly indicated in the last paragraph of their minute; namely, of requiring from me the pledge of a responsibility which I cannot grant, or of leaving the Administration of Owd, and the Company's interests in it, to a state of total indecision, by referring Mr. Bristow for his guidance, to instructions which can no longer have any force, and which are, in every article, contradictory of the system which he has adopted, and which the Board have hitherto supported, and still manifest their resolution to support,

Before I conclude, I shall desire to solicit the recollection of the Board to the great length of time which has elapsed since I first laid before them the complaints of the Nabob Vizier, all tending to shew that Mr. Bristow's acts and pretensions had thrown the government and country of Owd into a state of weakness bordering on anarchy: And Mr. Bristow himself, in his representations of the same subjects, has insisted on the same conclusion, but has ascribed it to another cause. It is evident, from Mr. Bristow's last letters, that the disorders of that state have been greatly augmented, and that the power which he has assumed, though unopposed at the Court of the Nabob Vizier, has produced only the spirit of contumacy, revolt, and embezzlement in its dependencies, independently of the public discredit which the English name has suffered by so long a subjection and oppression of the sovereign of the country in alliance with the Company.

This state of affairs has now existed almost twelve months, and it is more than eight since the Board has been acquainted with it. The acknowledged event has demonstrated the danger of leaving it so long without the least attempt at least to apply a remedy to it; and a short continuance of the same indecision may render it incurable.

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

A true Copy,

E. Hay,

Secy.

Read the following minute from Mr. Wheler, Mr. Macpherson, and Mr. Stables.

By Mr. Bristow's accounts of the Lucknow treasury received yesterday, the balance due the beginning of this month was 53 lacks. We could not imagine nor suggest that the Governor General should be answerable in his private fortune for so large a sum, or that his responsibility for the payment of it, or for the payment of the current gifts, should extend further than those obligations which constitute responsibility in a decided recommendation of any measure, contrary to the general opinion of the majority of the Board, such even as the Governor General has ex-

pressed in the close of his minute 21st October; wherein he says (speaking of the security of bankers of known credit and responsibility, tendered by the Vizier) "*I maintain that we ought to accept this offer.*"

The Governor General is better acquainted, from his long residence in this country, than we can be, with the validity of the bankers security, thus offered by the Nabob Vizier and his minister. We wish that security, or a better, if it could be obtained, to be lodged in the treasury, before we withdraw the residency; and we imagine that the declared proposition of restoring the residency to the charge of Mr. Bristow and Mr. Cowper, if the Vizier's minister fail in these payments, would bind them to a more punctual performance of their engagements.

It will on all accounts be necessary to inform the Vizier and his minister immediately, that the Company's troops in Oude must be paid their arrears, and supplied with provisions. We approve of the Vizier's resolution of restoring the Jaghires; but the Company's claims upon them should be first discharged (if such exist) so that they be restored without incumbrance; and the Resident should in our opinion, be directed to concert with the Vizier the best means of discharging Gopal Doss's debt, which appears to be in some train of payment; he should be further directed to release the Aumil of Rohilcund, after taking proper security for the arrears due by the said Aumil.

These points, and others relative to the situation of the Company's interests in Oude, we consider to demand the immediate orders of this government, independent of the complaints against Mr. Bristow, upon which we have already given our decision.

If therefore the Governor General will not take upon himself the responsibility which we have stated in our minute of the 28th instant, and there more clearly explained, relative to the balances due to the Company in Oude, the current kists, and the expedient of withdrawing the residency, it only remains for us to call upon his support to the orders which we have pointed out in this minute, as necessary to be carried into execution, or to direct the Secretary to inform Mr. Bristow of the resolution expressed in the close of our last minute; viz. that he is to consider the instructions he has already, as those of the Board, and to act under them in the discharge of his duty, informing the government of the obstructions that impede him in the necessary exercise of it.

A true Copy,  
E. Hay,  
Secy.

(Signed) E. W.  
J. M. P.  
J. S.

31st December 1783.

The Governor General.

I can have no objection to charge myself with the responsibility, in the terms of the explanation given of it in the preceding minute; that is to say, that the offer made by the Nabob Vizier and his minister, to give the security of bankers of known credit and responsibility for the payment of the balance due to the Company, and for the current demands of this year, be accepted, with the condition expressly annexed for the recall of Mr. Bristow and Mr. Cowper, and that I will consent to be specially answerable for the propriety of the measure.

In making this declaration, I rely upon the promise of support made to me by the members of the Board in their former minute, and I assent to the other conditions of the last.

The state of the Nabob Vizier's dominions will render it necessary to leave the sums of the monthly payments, and the ultimate period, to future adjustment. I will use my utmost influence to prevail upon the Nabob to regulate them in the manner most favourable to the complete and speedy discharge of the Company's Debt; and, as he has promised to abide by my recommendation in this business, I have no doubt of effecting it.

(Signed) W. HASTINGS.

The

The Board resolved to withdraw the residency from Lucknow, and to confirm the Governor General's acceptance of responsibility and charge of affairs there, as expressed in his last minute; viz. that the offer made by the Nabob Vizier and his minister, to give the security of bankers of known credit and responsibility for the payment of the balance due to the Company, and for the current demands of this year, be accepted, with the condition annexed of the recall of Mr. Bristow and Mr. Cowper, the Governor General consenting to be specially answerable for the propriety of the measure.

Agreed, that the following letter be written to Mr. Bristow.

To Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Sir,

Though the Board have fully approved of your conduct since your late appointment to the office of Resident at the Vizier's Court, and though they have resolved in consequence to reserve to you your claim and right to the office of Resident at Oude, from the orders of the Honourable Company, should the office be deemed hereafter necessary.

We have come to the determination of accepting the offers which the Nabob Vizier has made of paying his debt and current gifts to the Company, on condition that the Residency should be withdrawn from his court.

To fulfil this condition on our part, you will, on receipt of this letter, inform the Nabob Vizier and his Minister that you and Mr. Cowper, and the other gentlemen connected with the Residency, are ready to withdraw from Lucknow, having received orders of recall.—But as the reservation made in favour of your claims to the office of Resident at Lucknow, might hereafter, if announced at the Vizier's Court, be an argument with his ministers for some future objections, you will be pleased to take no notice of this circumstance, which we communicate only for your own satisfaction.

We make no doubt but the Nabob Vizier and his ministers will afford you every aid to settle the concerns of your Residency, and enable you to take your departure from Lucknow in the most amicable manner. The Governor General will write to them upon this subject; and we trust, that on your part you will endeavour to connect, as much as possible, the removal of your present station with good order in the Vizier's affairs.—You will deliver over the accounts and necessary papers to Mr. Wombwell, who returns to his station, and you and your assistants will return to Calcutta.—You will signify your orders to them accordingly.

We are, Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble Servants,

(Signed)

Governor General and Council.

Fort William,

Secret Department,

31st December 1783.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,

Secy.

Mr. Wombwell being at present in Calcutta;

Ordered, That he be directed to repair immediately to Lucknow, and to receive charge from Mr. Bristow of the accounts and papers of the Resident's office.

EXTRACT

*EXTRACT of the Secret Letter from Bengal; dated the 31st December 1783.*

Par. 18. **O**UR late Letters have informed you of the Differences which have subsisted in our Opinions with respect to Mr. Bristow's conduct at Lucknow.—The letters from Mr. Bristow, as well as the complaints of the Vizier and his minister, shew clearly the state of the dispute: Your troops in Oude fell several months in arrears; the claims upon the Vizier, independent of the current kits, amounted to upwards of 53 lacks of rupees; a famine had begun to prevail in his country, and evils of the most alarming nature were to be apprehended.—We refer to our proceedings for particulars.—The majority of our members supported Mr. Bristow's conduct; the Governor General condemned it. Differences at our own Board, and these differences known in the Vizier's dominions, could not but add to the public distress.—The representations from the Vizier and his minister, as well as Mr. Bristow, continued as strong as ever. The Governor General called on the majority to determine what should be done; his instructions to Mr. Bristow were declared by the Governor General to be cancelled by his Revocation of them, and the majority of the Board were required to furnish Mr. Bristow with new. The majority resolved to take the matter into their serious consideration; and on the 28th instant delivered in a minute, which with the Governor General's answer to it, the reply from Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Macpherson, and Mr. Stables, and that from the Governor General, accepting the proposition of the majority, we have the honour to send numbers in this packet.—The result is, that we have resolved to withdraw the Residency from Lucknow, and to confirm the Governor General's acceptance of responsibility and charge of affairs there, as expressed in his last minute; that is, the offer made by the Nabob Vizier and his minister, to give the security of bankers of known credit and responsibility for the payment of the balance due to the Company, and for the current demands of this year, be accepted, with the condition annexed of the recall of Mr. Bristow and Mr. Cowper, the Governor General consenting to be specially answerable for the propriety of the measure.—But when we remove the residency from Lucknow, we reserve to Mr. Bristow his claim and right to that office by your orders, should such office be deemed hereafter necessary.—We have the honour to transmit to you a copy of our letter to Mr. Bristow on this occasion.

19. We have the honour to acquaint you, that in consequence of the directions implied in your letter to us of the 14th of February last, of the distresses of the district of Ferocabad, the strong representations on this subject from the Nabob Mazuffer Jung, and his dissatisfaction, as well as that of the Vizier, with the Sezwaal appointed to remit the tribute from thence to Lucknow, we some time since appointed Mr. John Willes to be Resident on the part of this Government with the Nabob Mazuffer Jung, not doubting that the Vizier will confirm our choice of this gentleman; and for this purpose a letter has been addressed to his Excellency by the Governor General.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 6th October 1783.*

**T**HE Governor General delivers in the following minute, with two letters from Major Palmer, and one from Hyder Beg Cawn, dated 6th October 1783.

The Governor General lays before the Board two letters lately received from Major Palmer, and one from Hyder Beg Cawn. As both refer to Lieut. Col. Martin, as having been privy to many of the circumstances which relate to the complaints exhibited against Mr. Bristow, and as Hyder Beg Cawn directly appeals to his testimony for the truth of his representation of them, I desire that a letter may be written by the secretary, in the name of the Board to Lieutenant Col. Martin, requiring him to declare in writing, and with the solemnity of an oath, a narrative of all that he knows concerning the various matters of complaint which have passed between the Nabob Vizier, and his minister Hyder Beg Cawn, on one part, and Mr. Bristow on the other.

Major Palmer having, in his first letter, alluded to a private correspondence which passed between him and Mr. Cowper, which that gentleman carried to be copied for the use of Mr. Bristow, and the substance and tendency of the same having been long since suggested to the Governor

Governor General, in terms which seemed to be intended to impress him with unfavourable sentiments of Major Palmer, for the share which he has had in the late transactions at Lucknow, the Governor General requests, that if the other members of the Board are in possession of a copy of this correspondence, and conceive that any inference may be drawn from it, which may serve to illustrate any part of the general subject, they will be pleased to lay it before the Board, that it may be recorded with the other corresponding materials.

Sir,

The proceedings of Mr. Bristow since his last appointment to the office of Resident at the court of the Nabob Vizier, having been publicly complained of to you by the Vizier and his acting minister, as highly injurious to the rights, interest, and dignity of the former, and as unjust, arbitrary, and oppressive to the latter, and the share of interference which I have avowedly taken in those transactions having been misrepresented both in the motives and degree, and affected to be considered as the result of a concerted plan for encouraging an opposition in the minister to the measures and authority of the Resident, and of creating a misunderstanding between them, for the purpose of removing Mr. Bristow from his office; I think it my duty to make a public report to you of such transactions as have been communicated to me by the Vizier and his minister, on what grounds I thought myself obliged to interfere in their complaints, and to what extent that interference has been carried, that you and the public may judge whether my conduct has been actuated by malignant or interested views, or by motives of duty and fidelity to you, and of regard to the Company's, and the national interest.

You will be pleased to recollect, Sir, that after I had left Lucknow last year, on my return to the Presidency, from an unsuccessful commission with which you had charged me to the Vizier, you communicated to me the appointment of Mr. Bristow to the Residency of Oude, and directed me to return to Lucknow, and in your name to acquaint Vizier and his ministers of this appointment, to impress on their minds a firm reliance on your having given Mr. Bristow your entire confidence, and of your determination to afford him your utmost support, and to endeavour to establish reciprocal confidence and cordiality.

Having faithfully and zealously executed this commission, I should have left Lucknow, and returned to Calcutta, conformably to your instructions, had I not at that time received intimation that you were disposed to favour a proposal which I had made to you of an establishment for myself in this quarter, which would have required my presence at Lucknow, if it had taken place. I therefore remained here principally for my own convenience, but with the hopes also of cementing the harmony which I flattered myself I had been instrumental in founding at the Durbar, but I received very early intimation of a disposition in Mr. Bristow, which greatly damped this hope; I heard from various quarters, that Mr. Bristow had declared his disaffection to your person, and disclaimed all dependance on your authority and influence; and the first step which Mr. Bristow took after his arrival at Lucknow, clearly tended to destroy that confidence which the public service required should subsist between him and the minister, and to alarm the latter for his personal security, and the stability of his office. Mr. Bristow had authorized Lieut. Col. Martin to enter into a written engagement with the minister, implying fidelity and obedience on the part of the latter, and confidence and support on the part of Mr. Bristow, this engagement Mr. Bristow thought proper to cancel, and to leave the minister without any reliance on his favour and protection.

The apprehensions of the minister, at a transaction so extraordinary and alarming, were confirmed and increased by a demand which Mr. Bristow soon after made upon him of twenty-five lacs of rupees, from his own private fortune, for the public service, under the menace of being dismissed from his office in case of refusal. The next occurrence which was represented to me for your information, was a requisition made by Mr. Bristow to the minister of a Shoka in the Vizier's name, but without his knowledge, directing the payment of a specific monthly subsidy, for the Futtu Ghur detachment.

Before my departure for Rampoor, I was informed that Mr. Bristow required of the Vizier, to displace certain of his household officers, and that others of his nomination should be admitted in their room. Some time after my arrival at that place, I received intelligence from the minister, that Mr. Bristow had proceeded to regulate, by his own authority, and against the strongest remonstrances and opposition of the Vizier, the offices and expences of the household, for which purpose he appointed a Cuzaunchee and Mushriff; directed a separate place for the reception of the treasure; took the receipts and disbursements under his own charge; obliged the Muttefudys to attend Mr. Cowper with the accounts of the household, under many circumstances of rigour and disgrace; and made many reductions and regulations in the Vizier's domestic economy.

The next subject of complaint, with which I was desired to make you acquainted, was the mode of interference which Mr. Bristow made use of in establishing an Adaulut, in the name of the Vizier, but under the controul of Mr. Cowper; who, as it was stated to me, held the courts in his own house, and received, examined, and decided upon petitions; and also dictated the decrees to be signed, some by the Vizier himself, and others by the Aumils in whose jurisdiction the complaints respectively lay.

Mr. Bristow, of his own authority, and without the knowledge of the Vizier, ordered the reduction of four thousand cavalry, and seven thousand infantry; he also assumed the payment of the Vizier's cavalry, and appointed Mr. Cowper to the office of paymaster; directed Tunkaws for the payment of the troops to be included in the Company's Jydads, upon which Tunkaws two lacks of rupees were actually collected and paid in to Mr. Cowper, but refunded from the strong opposition made by the Vizier.

Mr. Bristow peremptorily directed the minister, by letter, to send Mahomed Beg as Sazoul to Furrockabad, without the knowledge of the Vizier.

The minister repeatedly advised me of Mr. Bristow's having encouraged the Vizier to disgrace and punish him, giving the Vizier assurances that our government would not disapprove of or interfere in any measure which he might think proper to take with his own servants; this relation the Vizier himself confirmed to me.

It has been reported to me, and in some instances has been proved to you, that whenever the Vizier's refusal has been opposed to any of the above measures, Mr. Bristow has declared, and even to the Vizier himself, his determination to carry them into execution whether the Vizier consented to them or not.

Mr. Bristow having, of his own authority, granted Tunkaws upon that part of the revenue assigned for defraying the Vizier's household expences, to be paid to the Cuzaunchee and Moosh-riff, whom he had appointed, sent for the Vizier's seal, in order to affix them to the Purwannahs directed to the Aumils; the Vizier at first refused to send his seal, but fearing that Mr. Bristow would execute the measures without it, and thereby degrade his authority, at length complied; when Mr. Bristow rejected the use of the Vizier's seal, and declared that his own should suffice, and be of equal validity in all public acts of this government.

Other instances of the high tone of authority over this government, and of independence on yours, which Mr. Bristow has assumed, have been circumstantially and consistently related to me, which having passed in conversation only, do not easily admit of proof, and which perhaps are not material if they did; but every other transaction herein particularly recited appeared to me of such high importance to the peace and security of both governments, to the national character for justice and moderation, and to your personal reputation, and are so inconsistent with the sentiments I have ever heard you express, and were, besides, accompanied with such testimony, either in writing or by references to Lieutenant Col. Martin's knowledge of the facts, that I must have violated every obligation of duty and fidelity to you and to the Company, if I had refused the requisitions of the Vizier and his minister, to forward their representations to you.

Besides these obligations which I owe to you and to the Company, in common with every other member of your family and government, a more particular one was imposed upon me, by the commission with which you charged me to the Vizier, to establish the credit and influence of Mr. Bristow at his court, and to encourage the Vizier to a reliance on Mr. Bristow's good disposition towards him. I must have forfeited my own character, and have subjected yours to unjust suspicion, if I had refused to be instrumental in obtaining from you a redress of grievances, which in your name I had encouraged the Vizier to hope he would never experience.

The share which I had taken in the complaints against Mr. Bristow having been incidentally mentioned by me in a correspondence with Mr. Cowper on a private subject, that gentleman thought proper to furnish Mr. Bristow with a copy of it, which I understand has been forwarded to Calcutta. This is a principal reason for my supposition in the former part of this address, that it would be attempted to be proved, that my continuance at Lucknow, after my return from Rampore, was for the purposes of encouraging the minister to oppose the measures of Mr. Bristow, and to excite complaints against his conduct.

I am as certain that no such inference can be fairly drawn from any part of that correspondence, as that the direct reverse is the truth.

My

My detention at that period was occasioned entirely by two young children being successively seized with the small pox, and before their recovery I received your commands to remain at Lucknow, in consequence of the public complaints which had reached you from the Vizier and his minister against Mr. Bristow. It was the complaints against Mr. Bristow which caused my stay, and not my stay which caused the complaints; and so far have I been from exciting them, I solemnly declare that I never enquired of the ministers, or any other person, into the proceedings of Mr. Bristow. The communications of them were made to me sometimes by the Vizier himself, but more frequently by the minister on his own behalf, and on that of the Vizier; and all the encouragement I gave to them, was to hope for redress if the complaints were just; and even this with the strictest caution against accusations either frivolous or false, warning the minister, that if they were found to be such, the mischief which he intended to others would recoil upon himself. It was my constant advice to the minister, to comply without delay or hesitation with every requisition which Mr. Bristow made in the name of government; but to demand such requisitions should be made in writing, for his own security, and justification to his master.

How much soever it may be the interest of Mr. Bristow to have it believed that complaints against him have been sought for and encouraged, he will never establish such a belief, whilst your character obviates the possibility of a suspicion that you could employ a man who has possessed your confidence and esteem for near ten years in the debasing office which Mr. Bristow would assign to me; and I trust that the invariable tenor of my own conduct will, to all who know it, acquit me of being capable of either assuming or accepting such an office.

Lucknow,  
16th September 1783.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

WM. PALMER.

Sir,

Since the dispatch of my public address to you of the 16th instant, I have discovered that I was mistaken as to the circumstance of Mr. Bristow having authorized Lieutenant Col. Martin to enter into the engagement therein mentioned with Hyder Beg Cawn, and which Mr. Bristow, after his arrival, disavowed and cancelled. I now understand that Lieutenant Col. Martin, as the confidential friend and agent of Mr. Bristow, gave, of his own authority, a written assurance for the purpose of removing his apprehensions of the resentment of Mr. Bristow on account of a former misunderstanding between them. This difference in the manner of the transaction makes little or none in the substance of it, and the inference which I drew from it still remains the same.

Lucknow,  
20th September 1783.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

W. PALMER.

*Consultation 21st October.*

Governor General.

20th October 1783.

THE frequent use which has been lately made of Major Palmer's name in the records of the late transactions at Lucknow, the assertion made by Mr. Johnson in his defence, that Major Palmer was at Lucknow in the character of a political agent, and the private suggestions which have been conveyed to me of misconstructions, passed on the nature and object of Major Palmer's deputation, compel me to lay before the Board the original instructions which he received from me, and which, if I can trust to my own recollection, and the rule of conduct which I have invariably prescribed myself in cases of this kind, were both seen and approved of by the actual members of the Board. I own that it is with reluctance that I present them. They were not intended to be recorded, their primary object being more to quiet the mind of the Nabob, to whom I owed that return of attention, for the honest attachment which he shewed to me when he thought me in distress, and my person in danger, than for any other purpose. This must account for the unapplied heads of memorandums with which the instructions conclude. I cannot at this time, were it

it necessary, explain them, but know that they were designed only to preserve his recollection of the loose and undetermined ideas which I had communicated to him in conversation respecting them.

I desire that this minute, with Major Palmer's instructions, may be added to the other papers which have been recorded on the general subject of the complaints preferred against Mr. Bristow, and transmitted with them by this dispatch to the Court of Directors.

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,  
Actg Secy to the Secret Dept.

*Consultation, 21st October.*

To Major William Palmer.

Sir,

Fort William, 6th May 1782.

I depute you to go to Lucknow, and to wait upon the Nabob Vizier in my name, observing the following instructions:

1st. You will assure him, that I feel it a sensible disappointment that I am myself disabled from performing the visit to his court which I promised him at Chunar, by many causes which at this time render my presence at Calcutta indispensably necessary. These causes, as they are fully known to you, you will explain as far as you shall judge it proper, or conducive to the other and more essential points of your commission.

2dly. It has been a matter of equal concern and surprize to me, to learn by the letters of the Resident, that the Nabob Vizier was with difficulty, and an almost unconquerable reluctance, induced to give his consent to the attachment of the treasure deposited by his father under the charge of the Begum his mother, and to the resumption of her Jagheer, and the other Jagheers of the individuals of his family, although these measures were the effects of his own suggestion, and proposed with great earnestness to me for my concurrence.

I desire that you will inform him, that in these and the other measures which were either proposed by him, or received his concurrence in the agreement passed between us at Chunar, I neither had, nor could have any object but his relief, and the strengthening of his connections with the Company, and that I should not on any other ground have exposed myself to the personal obloquy which they could not fail to draw upon me by my participation in them, but left him to regulate by his own discretion, and by his own means, the oeconomy of his own finances, and with much more cause the assertion of his domestic right. In these he had no regular claim to my interference, nor had I, in my public character, any claim upon him, but for the payment of the debt then due from him to the Company, although I was under the strongest obligations to require it for the relief of the pressing exigencies of their affairs. He will well remember the manner in which, at a visit to him in his own tent, I declared my acquiescence freely and without hesitation to each proposition, which afterwards formed the substance of a written agreement as he severally made them; and he can want no other evidences of my motive for so chearful a consent, nor for the request which I added to the means of fulfilling his purposes in them. Had he not made these measures his own option, I should not have proposed them; but having once adopted them, and made them the conditions of a formal and sacred agreement, I had no longer an option to dispense with them, but was bound to the complete performance and execution of them as points of public duty and of national faith, for which I was responsible to my King and the Company, my immediate superiors; and this was the reason for my insisting so peremptorily in their performance and execution, when I was told that the Nabob himself had relaxed from his original purpose, and expressed a reluctance to proceed in it.

When you have given him this explanation of my motives in regard to the late transactions, you will endeavour to learn, both by immediate application for that effect to the Nabob himself, and by enquiry with others, what were the real causes which influenced the apparent change in his intention

tion respecting this transaction; and whether he had any grounds for offence or dissatisfaction in the course of it.

As these, if they exist, are beyond the reach of any satisfactory conjecture which I can form, I can give you no special instructions for your reply, but leave you to remove the Nabob's exception by such assurances as you may be enabled to make to him by your general but intimate knowledge of my sentiments and intention in whatever has a relation to his interests, and his alliance with the Company and the British nation.

3dly. I desire you to endeavour to obtain from the ministers, and from Almas Ali Cawn, such sums of money as they can spare from their own means, or raise by their credit upon loan, for the service of the Company. To effect this, it will be necessary to convince them, that they will be no losers by it; but that, on the contrary, their property will require a security from being lodged in the Company's funds. Explain to them the nature of the Company's interest notes, and the means of credit by which they pass in circulation, and are transferable from the original to other successive proprietors, so as to give them a just idea of the tenure, and of the equal footing on which native, alien, and British proprietors stand in the possession of them. At the same time, it will be proper to apprise them of the fluctuation of their current value, which it would be criminal to suppress. You may assure them that when peace is restored to our establishment, and our expences are consequently diminished, the debt will be gradually paid off, as a former debt, contracted before my appointment to the government, to a much longer amount, was discharged in the course of two years, within your own remembrance; and that the estimated value of the notes will rise to the rates of their specific sums, and even above them, on the prospect of payment; so that the proprietors will be subjected to no loss, unless they shall chuse to part with their property in the notes during the intermediate time of our inability to discharge them, the annual interest due in the interval being duly and punctually paid. I have no doubt of their fidelity, but it can no way be so strongly shewn, nor the Company's support of them so strongly engaged, as by the assistance required.

4thly. The Nabob Vizier having, by an intimation made to Mr. Middleton in the month of February last, been pleased to express his desire to make me a present of ten lacks of rupees, and requested my previous consent and acceptance of the same, I desire you will make my acknowledgement in proper terms for this instance of his liberality and benevolence; and acquaint him that I am precluded from accepting it by many conditions, ~~but by one especially~~, which I beg him to take in good part; namely, that if I had received it at the time in which the tender of it was made, it would have been liable to constructions, even in his breast, so repugnant to the disinterested friendship which I profess, and bear towards him, that no consideration of personal profit could have induced me to accept it at such hazard. If he should renew the offer to you, you will inform him that my objection remains the same, and is insuperable, but that if he will be pleased to transfer it to the Company, for the relief of their present and known distresses, I will accept of it on their behalf, with a thankfulness equal to that which I should have felt and expressed for the gift, had it been made to myself; the wants of the Company being at this time of equal concern to me as my own. Let him understand this subject rightly, and he will see in my refusal, thus qualified, the most convincing proof of my friendship for him, and regard for his interest.

5thly. It is very much my desire to impress the Nabob with a thorough confidence in the faith and justice of our government, that is to say, in my own, while I am at the head of it: I cannot be answerable for the acts of others, independent of me. I hope it will not be difficult to convince him of this truth; for I have certainly afforded proofs of it, nor has the reverse been ever personally imputed to me. It is my desire to assist him in regulating his administration, because the success of my own is nearly connected with it; but is much more liable to suffer by its defects or misfortunes.—The inversion of this observation will not apply to the effects of our misfortunes on his affairs, except in the most desperate extremes.—Though we have been involved in wars with all the states around us, his dominions have enjoyed a state of tranquillity undisturbed by foreign enemies, because we have stood between him and those who might have been his enemies. But were we to withdraw that interposition, he would soon experience a dreadful reverse.—I know not how you will convince him of this by words, nor do I wish to put it to the proof; but you may assure him, that we will never interfere in his affairs beyond his own desire, nor make any claim upon him, but for what may remain of his debt to the Company, the payment of his subsidy, and of the future charges incurred by other detachments employed at his requisition and for his defence. Much delicacy and caution will be required in your declarations on this subject, lest they should be construed to extend to an immediate change in the administration of his affairs, or to the instruments of it. Their persons must be considered as sacred, while they act with the participation of our influence. This distinction the Nabob understands, nor will it be either necessary or proper to allude to it, unless he himself should first introduce the subject.

Only. Give the minister privately assurances of the present support and future protection of our government.

Let your stay with the Nabob Vizier be short, and be careful to prevent its affecting the influence of the Resident.

For your complete information upon the subject of these instructions, I shall furnish you with copies of the agreement made by me with the Nabob Vizier in August last, and of my instructions to the Resident respecting it.

I shall also give you letters of introduction both to the Nabob Vizier, and to the ministers.

The following are given you as the heads of subjects recommended to your enquiry, but too variable for specific instructions:

Goorookpoor and Bareich,  
Jagheers.  
Fyzoola Cawn.  
Furrackabad.  
The King.

You will communicate these instructions, and my sentiments on every other subject of your mission, to Major Davy, who attends you as your assistant, and in case that sickness or any other accident should prevent your proceeding to Lucknow, you will transfer them to his charge for execution.

I am, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

WARREN HASTINGS.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,

Acts Secy to the Secret Dep<sup>y</sup>.

**COPY** Proceedings and Correspondence relative to the State and Condition of the Country of Oude and its Dependencies, and of the reigning Family thereof; including the Charges made by Mr. Hastings against Mr. Bristow, &c. &c. &c.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 20 January 1784.*

**T**HE following letter and inclosures from Mr. Bristow having been received on the 30th ultimo, were circulated to the members of the Board for their perusal, and returned on the 1st instant.

Gentlemen,

Since I had the honour to address you, under date the 13th instant, respecting Ilmas Ally Kau, I have received other advices in a letter from Major M'Lary, tending to confirm me in opinion of the inimical designs of that Aumil. In explanation of the further precautions I judged it necessary to adopt for the security of the Caunpore station, in consequence of Major M'Lary's representation, I beg leave, gentlemen, to refer you to my answer to his letter.

I have already had the honour, in my address of the 13th herein above mentioned, to lay before you copies of letters written by me on this subject to Colonels Morgan and Cummings: I now take the liberty to transmit to the Honourable Board such further correspondence applicable

cable to it, as has since passed between me and those gentlemen. I flatter myself, it will also be in my power to furnish you, in a day or two, with a transcript of the Persian correspondence that has passed between me and the minister relative to Ilmas. A translation of it is preparing as fast as possible. I have the honour to submit myself, with the greatest respect, &c.

Lucknow, 20th Decr. 1783.

JOHN BRISTOW.

COPY of a Letter from Major M'Lary to Mr. Bristow.

Caunpore, 17th December 1783.

In consequence of Colonel Morgan's orders, I beg leave to inform you, that I arrived here yesterday evening with the regiment under my command, and that I shall take care to repel any attack which may be made in this quarter: As yet I have not heard of any motions of the Aumil's troops. Oblige me with your sentiments respecting them; and, should they draw this way, in what way, in what light I am to hold them: But at any rate I shall be prepared.

COPY of a Letter from Major M'Lary to Mr. Bristow.

19th December 1783, Caunpore.

I know not yet what the Aumil's intentions are; but this is certain, that he is collecting his forces from every quarter under the specious plea of mustering them. As I should highly experience the want of artillery men in case of any attack on this place, I have wrote to Sir John Cumming, requesting that a detachment may be sent down with all expedition; having at present only a few lascars to work the guns.

Should it appear to you that the Aumil has hostile intentions, I think the two companies of Major Scott's regiment, now on their march to Lucknow, might be ordered to join me, as also three or four from the Lucknow or Kyrabad stations. As Major Dunn has above two companies detached, and I have nearly one, should the Aumil draw this way, apparently hostile, I mean to quit the cantonments, carrying with me the park and magazine, and move to a post near the Caunpore old lines, where I shall be enabled to withstand his attack; as any attempt to preserve so straggling a place as those cantonments, would be useless, impracticable, and divide my force.

It is highly necessary that the Dawk between this place and Lucknow should be more expeditious.

Mr. Bristow's Answer.

Lucknow, December 20th, 1783.

I am favoured with your letters of the 17th and 19th instant. In case Colonel Morgan should not have furnished you with a list of the Aumil's troops, I have the pleasure to inclose you one. The intelligence you convey to me, of his collecting them under the pretence of muster, is very suspicious, as their services at the present season of the year are required in securing the collections; and the measure is unprecedented.

As the Resident's guard has Golundares attached to it, I have preferred requesting Captain M'Leod to proceed to Caunpore with all expedition, and called upon Lieutenant Wroughton, with the two companies under his command, to march along with him; and they have my requisition to obey your orders. The arms of Captain M'Leod's battalion being in a very bad state, and not fit

fit for service, I request you will order the number requisite to be served him from the magazine at Caunpore. I have, at the recommendation of Colonels Morgan and Cumming, requested Major Cook will immediately reinforce you with one battalion of his regiment. I have attended to your intimation concerning the Dawke; and I request you will also follow proper measures with the Munshie at Caunpore, to oblige his people to do their duty.

True Copies.

J. NEAVE,

Asst, &c.

**COPY of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. Bristow.**

Futty Ghur, 13th Decr. 1783.

I am favoured with your letter of the 11th current, inclosing copy of your letter to Colonel Morgan, together with a state of Almas's force. If you think there be immediate danger to the magazine, &c. at Caunpore, and in case Colonel Morgan have not, in consequence of your information, either left a reinforcement, or halted himself near Caunpore, in my opinion the most eligible mode would be to order the regiment at Kayrabad thither immediately. Half the regiment at Lucknow might march thither also; and as soon as Colonel Ironside arrives, the whole might return to their stations. For my own part, I will take care to hold the troops here in readiness to march the moment I receive certain intelligence that Almas is drawing his troops together with a hostile intention. I will also, in that event, order Colonel Knudson to join me by forced marches. There being no direct Dawk between this and Bareilly, I have to observe to you, that the want of it has been already attended with much inconvenience; and it is not improbable but it may be productive of very bad consequences: For this reason, I beg leave to recommend to you an application to the Vizier for a Dawk to be laid between this and Bareilly, as soon as conveniently can be done. The expence cannot be very great.

**EXTRACT from Mr. Bristow's Letter to Colonel Sir John Cumming, dated Lucknow, 18th December 1783.**

I am favoured with your letters of the 13th and 15th instant, and should have replied sooner to the latter, but that I waited to hear from Colonel Morgan. I understand that Major M'Lary's regiment has reinforced the troops in the station of Caunpore, which will answer the safety of it. Almas's Ally Cawn has manifested no overt act of hostility: His correspondence and connection with the Marattas, withdrawing his family and effects from Lucknow, and failing in his accustomed punctuality of payment, are circumstances which, compared with the conduct he pursues in general, justify suspicions, and render it necessary that we be on our guard.

**EXTRACT of a Letter from Colonel Morgan to Mr. Bristow, dated Carrah, 14 December 1783.**

I have this moment received yours of the 10th instant, and in consequence have ordered Major M'Lary to march back with his regiment to Caunpore with the utmost expedition, where he will arrive in two days; and now I have only one regiment of sepoys with me. But I cannot think that Almas has any intention of disturbing the stations at Caunpore. However, as Colonel Sir John Cumming is now in full force, being joined by Major Duncan with two regiments, I hope and flatter myself you have wrote to him upon the subject, as I recommended it to you in my letter of the 27th August last, to which I refer you for what I thought necessary to be said on the subject.

subject: He will not fail to give every assistance the occasion requires for the protection of the Cawnpore station, if you have wrote to him. Before this time, you must have seen the necessity of reinforcing the station, and you might have ordered troops from Hyrabad for that service; or, if the case was very emergent, a battalion from the regiment at Lucknow might have been sent; both which I recommended to you to be done.

Was I to return with the remainder of the brigade, it might, as you observe, hasten his defection, and give him some suspicion of our Government having inimical intentions towards him.

True copy and extracts.

J. NEAVE,

Assistant to the Resident at the Vizier's Court.

The following Letter, and its inclosure, from Mr. Bristow, were received and circulated on the 1st instant.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

The great inconvenience and distress to which your affairs are exposed, from Almas Ally Cawn's withholding payment of the revenues under his charge, are fully exemplified in my correspondence with Colonel Sir John Cumming, which I have now the honour to inclose for your information. Had this Amil paid his kists with his accustomed punctuality, I should by this time have realized a sufficient sum to discharge the arrears both of the second brigade, and the detachment on the frontier station. Circumstanced as I now am, it is with difficulty I am enabled to support the current disbursements of my office. I have regularly issued all monies immediately as they have been paid into the treasury; but as none of the bankers at the present period answer their bills when due, there arises another difficulty, for which it is no easy matter to apply a remedy.

I have the honour, &c.

JOHN BRISTOW.

Lucknow,

22d December, 1783.

COPY of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. Bristow, dated Fatty Ghur, December 15th, 1783.

The extreme distress in which the troops at this station now are, for want of money, obliges me to be very urgent in my request for two lacks of rupees to be sent hither as soon as possible. We are near five months in arrears, which even in plentiful seasons would be very distressing, but in the present scarcity is insupportable; nor am I without apprehensions of the most alarming consequences, if some means are not fallen on to supply the troops with subsistence. It is true, we have a detachment at Chapramow that has hitherto furnished grain, by seizing on the hoards at that place; but I have been hitherto particularly attentive that not a grain of corn should be taken away till paid for; and indeed, were it otherwise, the people all over the country would be alarmed, and do any thing with their property rather than let it fall into our hands. But, besides the extreme distress and general complaints of the troops, there are other reasons which make me very anxious for a supply of money at this period. On the one side, we have cause to apprehend an incursion of the Seiks, and on the other an attack by Almas. Should either of these events take place, it would be impossible for the troops to march till they were paid at least two months pay; I need not point out to you the bad consequences of so long, though inevitable delay. That no time may be lost in bringing treasure from Lucknow, when it is ready, and to quiet the minds of the troops, by giving them hopes that their sufferings will be speedily relieved, I intend sending an escort to Lucknow, where it may wait till you are provided with cash; which I trust will be in a very few days at farthest. As the district of Cheparamow will not be able to furnish grain for many days longer, I propose sending a battalion into the district of Bifunt Roy, for the purpose.

pose of supplying our camp with provisions. I know that you are unwilling that any force should be made use of, in any district under Almas, and I have therefore studiously avoided it; but I hope you will have no objections with respect to Bisunt Roy's country; if you have, communicate them to me, and point out the place from which we may draw our supplies. I wish for nothing more than to be able to subsist the troops, without oppressing the natives; and it shall be my care to see that they are paid for the grain we get from them, as soon as you shall put it in my power.

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EXTRACT of Mr. Bristow's Reply, dated Lucknow, 18th December, 1783.

I am favoured with your letter of the 15th instant. I am so fully convinced that, for supplying with provisions the troops under your command, you will use such means as will be attended with the least possible inconvenience or distress to the inhabitants, that I must leave it entirely to your own judgment; requesting you will adopt the method you propose, or any other which appears to you most eligible. I shall send you a jankah on the Sezawal of Jerokabad for rupees 50,000, and request your assistance in getting in that sum; but it is necessary to inform you that I think he will be unable immediately to supply it. The regiment at Kyrabad, and the Rohilcund detachments, shall be paid by junkaws on the aumils of those provinces; the regiment at Lucknow I can furnish from this treasury; besides which, I expect to be able to send the sum you require for the troops immediately with you; and for this purpose, previous to the receipt of your favour, I had requested Mr. Melville to apply to you for an escort.

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Colonel Cumming to Mr. Bristow, dated Futtu Ghur, 17th December, 1783.

This morning I sent a company of sepoy, under the command of Lieutenant Browne, to Lucknow for treasure, which I entreat you again and again to send hither, with as little delay as possible. The distress of the troops, through the scarcity of grain, and total want of money, is so great, as to admit no alternative; and I am forced, much against my inclination, to send a detachment in Bisunt Roy's district, to seize upon what grain they can find, and to convey it hither for the immediate subsistence of the troops. As it is impossible to raise money to pay for the grain at the time of taking it away, I have ordered the officer to grant receipts for the quantities he receives, in order that the owners may be paid as soon as a supply of cash shall enable us to do it. If money be not sent us in the space of a very few days, I shall be driven, however unwillingly, to march the whole detachment to Kanooge, and to seize on the repositories of grain in the city, and the adjacent villages. In short, I am apprehensive we shall be forced into measures, which nothing but extreme distress could justify, or even excuse.

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ESTIMATE of Pay and Arrears due to the Detachment under the command of Colonel Sir John Cumming.

The detachment under the command of Colonel Knudson at Bareilly, from the 1st of August to the 31st December, which is five months, at 36,000 per month CRs	1,80,000
To European artillery, 4 months, at 16,000 CRs	64,000
The brigade staff, 5 months, at 14,000 CRs	70,000
The 11th regiment of sepoy at Futtu Ghur, 5 months, at 19,000 CRs	95,000
Half the 21st regiment, at ditto, 9000 CRs	47,500
The 4th regiment of sepoy, now at Futtu Ghur, 3 months, 20,000 CRs	60,000
The 15th d <sup>o</sup>	60,000
	CRs — 5,76,500

N. B. Besides the above, there is Major Grant's regiment now at Lucknow, and Major Cook's at Kyrabad, that will be 4 months in arrears.

Mr.

Mr. Bristow, in reply to Colonel Cummings's letter of the 17th, dated Lucknow, 22d December, 1783.

I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant; and, as I have already informed you, I shall use my utmost endeavours to supply your detachment with the sum required by the Paymaster, and hope in a few days you will be relieved from all distress.

True copies and extracts.

J. NEAVE,

Assistant to Resident  
at the Vizier's Court.

The following letter from Lieutenant Colonel Martine, accompanied by his answer to the interrogations transmitted to him on the 23d November, having been received on the 2d instant, were circulated to the members of the Board, and followed by the minutes which are entered after them.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I herewith have the honour of transmitting you my answers to the interrogatories you have been pleased to put to me, by your commands of the 23d ultimo, which I have given, to the best of my recollection and knowledge, in all cases. I have now only to beg your indulgence for any want of method which may appear in the accompanying sheets, as I acknowledge I have not been used to such work.

I have the honour, &c.

D. Lucknow,  
23d December, 1783.

C<sup>L</sup> MARTIN.

Answer to the Interrogatories from the Honourable Governor General and Council.

1st Question.

In reply to this question, I do not recollect to have heard Mr. Bristow say, that he had or would forbid Hyder Beg Cawn's informing the Governor General "of the state of affairs at Lucknow;" but I heard Mr. Bristow express a sort of distrust and displeasure, that Hyder Beg Cawn either had or would complain against him.

2d. The minister Hyder Beg Cawn came in my room some time in November 1782, appearing anxious, and told me, that Mr. Bristow had required of him the loan of twenty-five lacks of rupees; that he had represented to him it was not in his power to do it, and had explained his reasons; notwithstanding, he feared Mr. Bristow did not believe him; on which account the minister, Hyder Beg Cawn, desired me to speak to Mr. Bristow of the impossibility of his lending such a sum, "being already indebted to bankers, shroffs, and other persons, from whom he had been obliged to borrow for the immediate expences of his Excellency; and without discharging those debts, for which he had already settled a mode of payment (if Mr. Bristow did not prevent him) he could not, with any degree of propriety, borrow more."

He also explained the total of these debts, and said, "that, once they were liquidated, with proper trust and support, the former of which he feared Mr. Bristow had not in him, that he would be able to borrow large sums, though money was scarce; and that, by a good harmony and understanding, he was in hopes that the Company's and his Excellency the Vizier's business would be carried on with ease, and prosper accordingly."

The above I related word for word to Mr. Bristow, and explained also my opinion of the general scarcity of money, and the necessity of giving confidence and keeping a good understanding with his Excellency, and the minister Hyder Beg Cawn. Of this last, particularly, I mentioned

tioned his great attachment to our interest; his abilities, honesty, and disinterestedness in the management of the country; and that I had reasons to think he had not such a sum by him, or any like it, in ready cash, as was demanded of him. In answer to this, as far as I can recollect, Mr. Bristow replied, that with regard to Hyder Beg Cawn's having no ready cash, and his not being able to advance the sum above-mentioned, "it was all a sham from him; that he was worth large sums, and had accumulated great wealth, &c."

On another day the minister Hyder Beg Cawn either came himself, or sent me a man, to let me know that Mr. Bristow still insisted on his lending him the sum before mentioned; and that, in case he would not lend such a sum, he, Mr. Bristow, would, by a change in the office, find another minister who should lend it: And that, since it appeared Mr. Bristow still entertained prejudices against him, and was resolved to dismiss him from his office, as he had conducted himself with applause towards his master the Vizier, and the Company, he would request to have the Company's protection, and retire with his family and property on the Company's territories; for he was not able to find such a sum, nor knew how to get it from any body: that the ruffoon allowed him he would give an account of, the whole having been expended either by him or the Nabob: that he thought his enemies had prevailed on Mr. Bristow; and, as it appeared Mr. Bristow intended turning him away, he begged I would explain the above to him, that he might have leave to retire safe with his family and property. All this I mentioned to Mr. Bristow, and gave him also my opinion of the impropriety of distressing him, &c. Mr. Bristow still observed, that in his opinion the minister Hyder Beg Cawn was worth immense sums, &c. That, in regard to the taking the office from him, that the Governor General had given him full power to do it; but that he thought Hyder Beg Cawn was as good a man for it as any other, accordingly he had no intention to dismiss him from his office; but that he ought to lend as much money as he could. At the same time Mr. Bristow also requested of me to lend all the money I could, saying, that he would borrow from the bankers, shroffs, and others, all that he could possibly get; asking my opinion of the sums I thought he would be able to borrow in the province of Oude; which I gave him, as also my reason for not having it in my power to lend any at that time. The minister, as I supposed, being anxious for an answer, either came himself, or sent his man, I do not remember which; but I do recollect that I sent him word, "not to be under any apprehension of his being dismissed for his not being able to lend the money, Mr. Bristow having told me that he would not do it; but, on the contrary, I was in hopes Mr. Bristow would change his mind; and if he was acting from prejudices, or the persuasions of his enemies, that the fallacy of their insinuations would soon come to light, and he would be undeceived: not to be under any fear of being dismissed, but to obey every order Mr. Bristow might chuse to give him: That though Mr. Bristow appeared to be hasty, he had no bad intention; and by obeying, and acting uprightly, he would soon gain his confidence, and by that means defeat the artful insinuations of his enemies." This answer I gave entirely of myself, after having received the answer above mentioned, or nearly, from Mr. Bristow; and the minister sent me word that he would go to Mr. Bristow: and as his man did not appear much satisfied, I wrote to Mr. Bristow to the same purport as related above. Of this letter I have not kept a copy; but I found a note of Mr. Bristow to me without date, which I have reason to think is an answer to my representation on this subject; as this note expresses, "he had had a satisfactory explanation with Hyder Beg Cawn, and that I need not be apprehensive of his wanting to play him off."

3d. I cannot be positive to this question, but, as far as I can recollect, I heard either from Mr. Bristow, or the minister Hyder Beg Cawn, that such papers had been required from the latter, and I think they were delivered.

4th. What I can recollect about this question is, that I have heard at times Mr. Bristow mention, that he had upon him the whole responsibility of the revenues of the province of Oude; that not a rupee should be given or paid without his knowledge, and he meant to make a reform. In the end of December or January last he shewed me a letter, asking me what I thought of it? He said he was writing to the Honourable Board, in which he proposed to establish a treasurer Dewan and Audawlut, and also recommending persons of his acquaintances to superintend those offices. On this letter I remarked to Mr. Bristow, that those offices were already in being, and even held by the persons he had recommended: That I thought they were displeased at the Nabob and minister's measure, and, if he intended to set them up against the Nabob and his minister's, I was afraid he would meet with many obstacles and difficulties in effecting his plan: That, as far as I knew, the Nabob Vizier seemed submissive enough to every plan recommended to him by the Governor General and council; but that, without such a recommendation strongly enforced, he would find him very obstinate in this affair, particularly on account of the controul which would be put on him by these offices in the manner proposed, and the increase of expences and emoluments that would follow of course.

That,

That, above all, the Vizier would be very loth to allow any attempt to controul his privy purse and household expences, and would do every thing in his power to avoid it. On these or other reasons he had other aumils, on whom he allows or gives no jaydauds or tunkaws, for the Company, as that he may receive his rent directly from them. That if any irregularities existed in the above-named offices, as they stood at present, I was persuaded that they would be remedied by the Nabob or his minister, after a proper representation by him (Mr. Bristow) &c. In reply, Mr. Bristow said many things in support of his project of reform and controul; and all I told him then, and at different other times, availed little, by what appeared afterwards.

5th. To answer this question as fully as I can, I beg leave to represent, that Mr. Bristow at different times mentioned to me (I suppose for the purpose of my informing Hyder Beg Cawn) that he (the minister) would not obey him, and that in consequence he would be obliged to make a change in that office. This was always said in terms and in a manner implying great displeasure, but without Mr. Bristow's mentioning in what particular point Hyder Beg Cawn had not obeyed him, I informed Hyder Beg Cawn's man of what Mr. Bristow had said, but without telling him any thing of Mr. Bristow's displeasure, or the intended change he had talked of. In return, he assured me his master had told him to inform me, he had hitherto obeyed every order of Mr. Bristow, and that he would be happy if Mr. Bristow would point out the particular instance in which he had not: That I should then be convinced of the contrary. This I related to Mr. Bristow, and desired he would accordingly name out the particular point he had to complain of. Mr. Bristow replied to me, he would not have a third person; that the man must trust to him, or words to that purpose. To this I answered, that he had then no occasion to tell me his stories about Hyder Beg Cawn, and to talk to me of the subjects of displeasure he pretended to receive from him, as it was no business of mine. Still, however, at several times after, Mr. Bristow and I had different conversations on the same subject; he saying that Hyder Beg Cawn would not obey him, and I insisting on it he would. About this time Hyder Beg Cawn came to my house; I told him that the business in debate between him and Mr. Bristow must be a matter of a very secret nature, since neither he or Mr. Bristow would explain it to me, yet both appeared willing I should mediate in the affair. After some hesitation, and premising that Mr. Bristow had bound him to secrecy, and begging I would not mention what he was going to say, which I promised I would not, Hyder Beg Cawn acquainted me, that Mr. Bristow required of him to make up and give him shakas in the Vizier's name, without his knowledge or acquiescence (as he, Hyder Beg Cawn, had reported to Mr. Bristow, that the Vizier would not consent to what was required of him, viz. the payment of the Futtu Ghur detachment) which would ensure the jaydauds or tunkaws necessary for the payment of that detachment. This Hyder Beg Cawn pretended to me he could not do without the Vizier's orders or consent, as it was a thing his highness had set himself against, and contrary to the treaty he had lately entered into at Chunar Ghur with the Governor General. That, however, if he was ordered to do so by the Honourable Board, he would then, as the risque of incurring his master's displeasure, endeavour to prevail on him to assent; or, if Mr. Bristow would give him an order to that purpose, so as he might be cleared of the blame of such an act, that he would then do it, in expectation of being supported in consequence by him and by the Board. I promised Hyder Beg Cawn I would speak to Mr. Bristow on this subject, but waited till Mr. Bristow himself spoke first, which was soon after. I then told him, that with respect to the affair in which the said Hyder Beg Cawn would not obey him, and for which he (Mr. Bristow) said he had orders, he had nothing more to do than to give him those orders, or his own, and I would venture to assure him Hyder Beg Cawn would obey him implicitly; and that if it should happen that he was not able to persuade his master the Vizier, he hoped still to do it with the assistance of the resident, or even the Board, if hereafter necessary. That in the mean time, in order to prevent the inconvenience of delays, he (Hyder Beg Cawn) would take upon himself, in the name of his master, to do what was wanted, provided Mr. Bristow would give him his orders to that effect. As far as I can recollect, Mr. Bristow told me, he had already given him orders, but that the minister would not obey him; repeated, that he would not have the assistance of a third person in this affair; and said, he would be obliged to take some other measures, &c. Several days passed; I had no visits, nor heard about the debate, which made me conclude Mr. Bristow had reasons to be satisfied with the minister: until the 2d of February, that I received a message from Hyder Beg Cawn, by a servant of his, informing me that his life was in danger, on account of Mr. Bristow's having complained in such a manner against him to the Vizier, that he could expect nothing less than to lose it, if he was not protected: In consequence, that he would take refuge in his (Bristow's) house, or mine, until he had security for his life, &c. The occasion was so pressing, that although Mr. Bristow had shewn me he was not pleased at my representation in behalf of Hyder Beg Cawn, I could not help writing him on that subject; and in his answer, which appeared to me satisfactory with respect to Hyder Beg Cawn's safety, there was this paragraph: "To give a hint to his servant that the business must be done; and the Vizier's objections could only be considered as his dictating."

Respecting the tunkaws of the tookfawars, I cannot positively assert any thing; only I understood, that during the contest relative to the appointment of a treasurer, dewan, and audawlut, application was made for separate tunkaws for the tookfawars, and that two lacks of rupees had been paid on that account either to Mr. Bristow or Mr. Cowper's treasurer: That the Vizier was displeased, and threatened that if Mr. Bristow or Mr. Cowper paid those tookfawars, he should no longer look on them as his own; and, accordingly, that any sum paid them should not be on his account. In consequence, I understand that two lacks of rupees were sent back to Tippurchund, the Vizier's treasurer.

6th. To this I have to answer, That a person came to me, on the part of Hyder Beg Cawn, to tell me that Mr. Bristow had required of him an account of the expences of the Vizier's household, kitchen and stables; and that Hyder Beg Cawn had given for answer, That he much feared the Vizier's displeasure, if he had come to know he had done such a thing. In answer, I desired the above person to inform Hyder Beg Cawn, that Mr. Bristow had also told me he had power from the Governor General and council, in his instructions, in case Hyder Beg Cawn did not obey him, to turn him out of office. That Mr. Bristow had told me, he was responsible for all the revenues, &c. as related in the answer of the questions 2d. and 3d. On these accounts, I advised Hyder Beg Cawn to obey implicitly, and deliver to Mr. Bristow the accounts and papers he had required; and, in short, refuse nothing that was in his power. That in so doing I was in hopes they would be good friends; otherwise, as I had heard it from Mr. Bristow, that he would be obliged to prefer another minister, who would obey reasonable requests.

7th. To this I have to answer, That some time in or about March last, I had a message from Hyder Beg Cawn, by the same person who used to come from him to me, acquainting me, that he was much at a loss how to act; and begging I would "assist him with Mr. Bristow, who was surrounded by his (Hyder Beg Cawn's) enemies, and would not credit him in what he said. The point was, that Mr. Bristow would not fix or settle the bunderbursht for the Company, but insisted on having jaydauds or tunkaws for 140 lacks of rupees: That Hyder Beg Cawn had represented to Mr. Bristow, it was impossible for such a sum to be raised from the Revenues; and that even the bunderbursht, settled by his predecessor Mr. Middleton, could not without difficulty be realized: That the net revenues not being much above 172 lacks, and the disbursements (including the above 140 lacks) amounting to above 2 crores, there was an absolute necessity of coming to an arrangement for the present year: That, instead of assenting, Mr. Bristow had only testified to him (Hyder Beg Cawn) his suspicions of the many embezzlements and robberies committed, as he thought, in the collections and disbursements: That, in consequence, he would settle nothing, until he had full accounts of all disbursements of the different troops, the place they were stationed at, and the mode in which they were paid: That he (Hyder Beg Cawn) had represented, but without effect, that to copy such accounts would take up a deal of time, which could not then be conveniently spared." In the end, Hyder Beg Cawn begged of me, by his man, to speak to Mr. Bristow, that he would finally determine on what was to be paid to the Company; and that the Vizier and him would find means, if possible, to satisfy every demand. I did so accordingly, but to little purpose; Mr. Bristow being too much persuaded that he would make many discoveries of mismanagement to give up his points. A few days after I heard that all the muttuddies of the treasurer's offices, and the mushruffs were attending at Mr. Cowper's from morning till late at night, without intermission; which circumstance naturally gave weight to a rumour then spread, that the Vizier and his minister would no longer have an authority in the management of their public affairs. About this time I had another message from Hyder Beg Cawn, begging of me to speak to Mr. Bristow, and inform him, that there was no more time to be lost in the settling the affair of the Company's jeydauds or tunkaws; or, if he did not chuse to do it, to take the small remains of influence he (Hyder Beg Cawn) had for that purpose; and, to induce Mr. Bristow to a speedy determination, he desired me to copy a scheme for the repartition of the revenues, and an account of the large sums he had (according to Mr. Bristow) accumulated. These papers I sent to Mr. Bristow, and mentioned to him, that if he would not desist from the demand of 140 lacks, the difference must either be borrowed, or retrenched from the usual expences of the government: That, in my opinion, no retrenchment could be made, but on the moataynah's troops; and, if he meant such retrenchments, the sooner it was done the better, as in a few months more they would have received so much that the proposed restraint could not answer any purpose, particularly as the accounts Mr. Cowper was taking were not, by his own account, near a conclusion, nor any thing like it. At first Mr. Bristow said he could not determine, unless he had those accounts; but in the end, after Mr. Cowper had retired, who was present at first, he said, "he would settle about it, as there was no end to those accounts."

8th. To

8th. To this I can only say, That, soon after Mr. Bristow's arrival at this place, it appears he had formed a scheme of establishing a regular corps of sepoys in lieu of the mountenahs; and I have heard him say, that he had wrote or would write to the Board or Governor General on the subject, and for a quantity of rejected arms. He also desired me to make up some, and asked me how many rupees firelocks would cost made here; on which I represented to him, that they would come much dearer than those which might be purchased in Bengal. With regard to the discharging 4,000 horse and 7,000 foot, I have heard of such an order from public report, but do not recollect any thing further about it.

9th. In answer to this I beg leave to represent, That, some time in January last, a man of Hyder Beg Cawn's came to me, to tell me that Mr. Bristow had enjoined the minister not to disclose to any one the removal he intended to make of the present Sezawul of Furruckabad, named Mahommed Syed Cawn who was to be relieved by one Mahommed Bey; and that this removal was without the consent of the Nabob and his minister: That it particularly affected this last, as Mahommed Syed Cawn was a man of his own recommendation, and an honest man, on whom he could depend, and for whose good behaviour he would venture to become security: That it was not so much for the sake of the office itself, that he wished Mr. Bristow to desist from his intended appointment, but because it would reflect on the Nabob, and take away the remains of his (Hyder Beg Cawn's) influence, and put him in a manner in competition with a person (Ismael Bey) who declared himself his avowed enemy. As Mahomed Bey was a particular friend and dependant of his, that therefore, if this intended appointment was to take place, every officer of government would naturally conclude, that neither the Vizier or his minister had power to fill or remove from offices, but that such authority was lodged in Hyder Beg Cawn's enemy, the friend of Mr. Bristow above-mentioned. I was further desired very earnestly to endeavour to prevail on Mr. Bristow to postpone that appointment, but to do it in the most delicate manner possible. I spoke accordingly to Mr. Bristow, and told him I understood he meant to send a new sezawul to Furruckabad, one Mahomed Bey, a friend of Ismael Bey, and that it was contrary to the Vizier's and minister's inclinations, for which I added many reasons. On this Mr. Bristow asked me, whence I heard such a report? I answered him, That nothing of such a nature could be long concealed in a place like this. He then said it was true he had such an intention (of removing of Mahommed Syed Cawn) but that it was at the recommendation of Hyder Beg Cawn himself. I replied, that I thought it rather extraordinary, that Hyder Beg Cawn should remove from an office a man of his own choice, and whom he in a manner supported, to place an enemy of his. To this Mr. Bristow again repeated, that it was entirely at the minister's recommendation; that the sezawul was removed, and Mahommed Bey appointed to succeed. This assertion made me inform Mr. Bristow, that I had it in charge from the minister to represent to him against that appointment, for the reasons mentioned above, and which I explained fully. If I remember right, Mr. Bristow answered, "It was very extraordinary; that he would speak to the minister, and explain that matter with him. The next day Mr. Bristow spoke to me, and told me he had talked with Hyder Beg Cawn about sending Mahommed Bey to Furruckabad; and that he had returned for answer, that what Mr. Bristow "was doing, or would do, was well done." On my relating this to the minister, he acknowledged it was true, that Mr. Bristow had put such questions to him, and that he made such an answer; not being able to give him a flat denial: and besides, he had been cautioned by me to obey Mr. Bristow, as related before.

10. In answer to this question I have to represent, that, at the time alluded to, the Vizier sent me several messages, desiring me to tell Mr. Bristow, that "he would not agree or consent to the appointment of a treasurer, Dewan and Adawlet, in the mode proposed by Mr. Bristow; and that if Mr. Bristow continued to insist, as he had said he had orders from the Board to do it, that the Vizier would be compelled to go in person to Calcutta, to represent his case, and reasons for not agreeing to such appointments, if Mr. Bristow would not do it himself." I spoke accordingly to Mr. Bristow; and, as much as I can recollect, he told me he had orders from the Board about those offices, and he must obey them.—The Nabob again sent me a servant of his, to request I would intercede with Mr. Bristow, and engage him to write to the Board, to beg they would countermand the order he said they had given him. All the answer I could obtain from Mr. Bristow was, If the Vizier would write, and send him his letter, he would forward it to the Board.—Another time I had another message from the Vizier by the same man, who told me he was sent, at the particular desire of the Nabob, to explain to me that Mr. Bristow had, in a late conference, made use of very harsh expressions towards him, such as the Governor General and council themselves had never employed; and that he felt them as still more humiliating, from their having been spoken in the presence of Mr. Cowper. The affair in question was about the treasurer and Dewan, and controul of the household expences; to which points the Nabob would not in any shape consent, declaring particularly, he would not have either Mr. Bristow or Mr. Cowper, or any European, to superintend or pay the expences of his household, family, or troops: That, in reply, Mr. Bristow had said, That if his excellency agreed to it, it was well; if not, it did not signify; that he would do it without his excellency's consent.—Such were the terms related to me by the man sent me by the Vizier; and further, that the Nabob replied only, That he would by no manner of means have Mr. Cowper to superintend his treasury; but, if Mr. Bristow insisted on having that office regulated, that

he would consent to Tipper Chund, the person who was already his treasurer, being joined to Doarkadaws, a man who had been proposed by Mr. Bristow.—It not being very agreeable to me to speak so often to Mr. Bristow on such subjects, and the more so as it appeared plainly that he was not pleased at my interposition, I begged the person sent me by the Vizier, that he would request his master to employ somebody else to carry his messages to Mr. Bristow, as I wished to be excused. He however returned soon after, and told me his excellency had said, I have known him of old, and when he was a boy; that I had been his friend so long, and why at this moment, refuse him my assistance? The man said so much, that I was induced to promise I would speak to Mr. Bristow on the subject.—I did it accordingly; and related every word that I had heard. He appeared thoughtful, and said he did not recollect to have made use of harsh expressions; but that his instructions were positive to establish such offices, and that they must be established.—I represented to him the Nabob's unwillingness to assent; and how improper, in my opinion, it was, to want to place Mr. Cowper to superintend such an office, which would in fact render the Nabob subservient to him. Mr. Bristow answered nothing to this, only passed some severe reflections on the minister.—The day after, Hyder Beg Cawn sent me his man, begging I would report to Mr. Bristow, that he had gone to the Vizier with his written order (on the subject of the above) but that the Nabob would not consent: That he had made use of every persuasion in his power, to no purpose: That the Vizier had shed tears on account of the repeated ill usage he had met with from Mr. Bristow, and had said, he would not remain in the provinces; and, if the Board did not countermand the orders Mr. Bristow mentioned, on the points in contest, that he must quit Lucknow, and go to Calcutta, to throw himself before the Board, in order to be heard in his representations. This message I repeated in the evening to Mr. Bristow, but I do not exactly recollect his answer; only I thought he appeared since to relax from the intended appointment of Mr. Cowper to superintend the treasury.—However, I have a note of Mr. Bristow, on the subject of one of the many representations I was necessitated to make to him, in which he says, "You'll not understand me. Hyder Beg Cawn has been the cause of all the mischief in the country, as well as to me: He must obey every order simpliciter, and not set the Nabob at rejecting reasonable requests. These are the only terms; and he will take the consequences of any further opposition. His Complaints signify nothing."

11. I do recollect to have, in the course of general conversation, either from Mr. Bristow, or at least from persons in his presence, heard, that the Nabob had many unnecessary servants, and a vast number of useless animals. In particular it was mentioned that he had Fifty Barbers; but I am not certain of any orders being given about the reduction of their number.

12. In my answer to the 10th question, I have already given a detail of the harsh expressions of which the Nabob Vizier complained: I have heard of no other.

13. I have already, in my answer to the 10th question, and in other parts of these sheets, declared what I know relative to the first part of this question: I cannot assert any thing positive.

14. I cannot say positively any thing on the subject of this question; only that I know of orders issued by Mr. Bristow to the officer stationed with the Phoufadar of Kyrabad, "to take effectual measures to prevent the Phoufadar from making any payments to other taukadars, till the full amount of the Company's assignments be discharged; and that he insisted upon no part of the collections being appropriated to other purpose than the demand of Government." I also understand that the ministers rossoum has not been paid by the Aumil of Allahabad, in consequence of similar orders.

15. I have already, in my answer to the 5th question, related what I knew of the circumstances of Hyder Beg Cawn's fears, on account of the complaints Mr. Bristow had made against him to the Vizier, which operated so much on him, that he determined in seeking protection either in my house or Mr. Bristow's. Both Hyder Beg Cawn's man, and the Vizier's, who came to me on that subject, said to me, that Mr. Bristow had told the Vizier "to act as he thought proper with his ministers. That nobody would find fault with it, and that he would give it him in writing."

16. To this question I cannot answer with any degree of certainty or recollection.

17. All I know on the subject of this question is, that Hyder Beg Cawn did mention to me, some time in May last, to tell Mr. Bristow, "That if he chose to allow me to the mediator betwixt him and the minister, that he, Hyder Beg Cawn, was ready to enter into any engagements he pleased, and he would be sincerely and fairly attached to him." I was not made

made acquainted with any other terms of the said coalnamah or engagement; and, on my mentioning the affair to Mr. Bristow, he said he did not want to make any such agreement with a man who had and would deceive him.

18. I have already related, in the course of these sheets, many particulars relative to the Shookas; and have only to add, that Mr. Bristow, one time in conversation with me, was expressing his displeasure with the minister, and saying he would not obey him. I replied, that I thought he had, and even at the risque of displeasing his master, and of creating more enemies; as a proof of which, I mentioned, that it was entirely to obey him that he had sealed and delivered the Shookas for the payment of the Futtu Ghur detachment, which he had done without the Vizier's knowledge. Mr. Bristow appeared astonished at my knowing that circumstance, and asked me if Hyder Beg Cawn had told me so. (seeing he was under secrecy). I answered him, that I knew the affair long ago, as well as what had passed between him and the minister on that score.

19. In answer to this question, I beg leave to observe, that I cannot particularize the appointment Mr. Cowper had from Mr. Bristow respecting the Adaulat; but I understood from several quarters that Mr. Cowper superintended such an adaulat; and as a great deal was said about it in the course of private conversation, and entirely from friendly motives, I asked Mr. Bristow how it came that Mr. Cowper had such an office? If I recollect right, Mr. Bristow replied, that he knew nothing about his having such an office. I then told him, that if he knew nothing about it, "then Mr. Cowper acted on his own account." I further told Mr. Bristow, "that the blame, if any, would fall on him, and advised him to order Mr. Cowper to desist." The next day, or soon after, a person from the minister informed me, that Mr. Cowper had summoned the minister's head banker to appear before him, and threatened him with his (either Mr. Cowper or Mr. Bristow's) displeasure, for not complying with the summons which was sent him to answer to a complaint against him. As this affair was notorious, and many bankers and principal merchants of the town were uneasy in consequence, I mentioned it to Mr. Bristow, and told him that such acts gave great disgust to the people; and the more so as coming from Mr. Cowper, as properly nobody knew of any powers being vested in any other person besides the Resident. Mr. Bristow again repeated what he had said before, that Mr. Cowper had nothing to do in the Adaulat; and that he had spoke to Mr. Cowper, who he understood had wrote a letter to the minister's banker in his (Mr. Bristow's) name, to desire him, that whenever he (Mr. Cowper) chose to write in his (Mr. Bristow's) name, not to send the letter without first shewing it to him. At another time, not long after, I understood that several decrees, said to have been given in the new Adaulat, had been presented to the minister in order to obtain the Vizier's sanction, which he had refused to give, not having power from the Vizier to do so. That in consequence those decrees were given to a Munshee attending on Mr. Cowper, with orders to carry them to the Vizier (who was then on a hunting party at some distance from Lucknow) in order to obtain his approbation. These circumstances I related to Mr. Bristow; who, in his answer, continued to deny the knowledge of any adaulat, and said that the Munshee was gone for a few days, on leave of absence, to his home. This, I own, surprized me a good deal; and I thought it very extraordinary, that Mr. Bristow should pretend not to know a thing which was notorious to all the town, and which may so easily be proved, if necessary. This prevented me from saying any thing more to Mr. Bristow on that subject.

20. My intermediation was certainly employed between Mr. Bristow and Hyder Beg Cawn, as will appear by my answers to the above questions, to which I beg leave to refer.

Lucknow,  
22d December, 1783.

(Signed) CL. MARTIN.

In Circulation for perusal,

A letter from Colonel Martin, inclosing his replies to the interrogatories.

(Signed)

Council Chamber,  
Secret Department,  
2d Jan. 1784.

E. HAY,  
Secy.

Governor General.

I have read them, and recommend that a copy be sent a number in the packet.

(Signed) W. H.

Mr. Stables.

3d January, 1784.

As the Governor General has recommended that the answers to the interrogatories, just received from Colonel Martin, should be sent a number in this packet, I will not object thereunto; but I think it would have been but reasonable and right to have delayed the sending them till Mr. Bristow's answers to them were received, for the complete information of the Court of Directors.

Mr. Wheler.

I agree in the same sentiments with Mr. Stables, but will not object to the Governor General's recommendation.

(Signed) E. W.

Mr. Macpherson.

I agree entirely in the same sentiments with Mr. Stables; and think further, if Colonel Martin's answers to the queries are sent to the Court of Directors before Mr. Bristow's remarks upon his answers are received, to accompany them, that the Court of Directors should be requested to suspend their opinion till they receive Mr. Bristow's vindication, which cannot, from the earnestness he has already expressed upon the subject, but arrive here soon.

In consequence of the foregoing opinions, Colonel Martin's letter, and his answers to the interrogatories, were sent numbers in the dispatch to the Honourable the Court of Directors, per Barwell; and the minutes of the members of the Board, with that from the Governor General, respecting their being sent to Europe, were transmitted a number in the same packet.

The following letter from Colonel Martin was received by the Secretary on the 3d instant.

Sir,

I beg you would be so good, should there be a necessity for it, to represent to the Honourable Board, that, in compliance with their orders to furnish Mr. Bristow with a copy of my answers to the interrogatories, I am getting them copied, and he shall have them shortly. I omitted mentioning it in my letter of yesterday to the Board.

I am, &c.

Lucknow,  
24th Decr. 1783.

(Signed) C<sup>L</sup>. MARTIN.

The letter to Mr. Bristow, recorded in the last proceedings, having been copied fair, and circulated for signature, the following minutes from Mr. Stables, Mr. Macpherson, and Mr. Wheler, were received by the Secretary, and immediately sent by him to the Governor General, whose minute is entered after them, together with a letter which he proposed to be written to the Nabob Vizier.

Mr.

Mr. Stables.

2d January.

By the letter to Mr. Bristow, as it is proposed, no notice is taken of the bankers security, but there is an absolute recall. We ought to see the letter to the Vizier, &c. before that to Mr. Bristow is dispatched.

(Signed)

J. S.

Mr. Macpherson.

I have seen Mr. Stables's objection to signing the letter for withdrawing the Residency from Oude, before he sees the Governor General's letter to the Vizier on the subject, and relative to the shroff's security. As the Governor General has taken upon himself the responsibility, I take it for granted, that, in his letters to the Vizier and his ministers, he will explain to them the necessity of remitting to himself the proper security, before the Vizier gives the Resident leave to withdraw. Were we to direct Mr. Bristow not to quit the Vizier's court till the security in question was given and transmitted hither, I suspect that the Vizier's ministers would represent that the Resident's presence created delays in obtaining the security. I have therefore no objection to signing the letter to Mr. Bristow, as it stands; I imagine the Governor General will sign it likewise, and remove any difficulty that is suggested.

(Signed)

JOHN MACPHERSON.

I have seen Mr. Stables's letter, and Mr. Macpherson's answer. The observations made by the former are much to the purpose, and I think the answer very satisfactory. Let them be referred to the Governor General.

(Signed)

E. W.

Security ought to be given for the arrears and current demands, before the Resident is withdrawn.

(Signed)

J. S.

I have written the draft of a letter for the purpose required, and in the terms which seem to be most conformable to the sense of the other members of the Board. I submit it to them for correction. It cannot, I apprehend, be more particular; and I have no doubt of the Vizier's exerting himself to give the security required without delay.

(Signed)

W. H.

COPY of a letter from the Honourable the Governor General to the Nabob Vizier.

After a very full and mature consideration of the state of your Highness's country and government, it has been resolved by myself and the gentlemen of the council to accept of the offer, some time since made by your Highness, of the security of bankers of known credit and responsibility for the discharge of the balance due from you to the Company, and for the growing payments of the subsidy and other current expences, on the condition of the recall of Messrs. Bristow and Cooper, and withdrawing the Company's Residency from your Court. You will of course see the necessity of taking the most speedy means to obtain such security, and to deliver the same to Mr. Wombwell, who has orders to receive charge of all the papers of Mr. Bristow's office, and to remain for the purpose of keeping the accounts of payments made from your circar to the Company: And it is my request that your Highness will then, and not till then, give to Mr. Bristow leave in form to withdraw. He will accordingly depart, and return to Calcutta; and signify

signify your order to Mr. Cooper, and the other assistants of his office to the same effect, that they may also return to Calcutta.

A true copy,

E. HAY,  
Secy.

The foregoing letter to the Vizier, having been approved by the other members of the Board, was returned to the Governor General; and the fair letter having been received by the Secretary from the Governor General in the morning of the 6th instant, Mr. Wombwell was immediately dispatched to Lucknow with the letter for the Nabob Vizier and Mr. Bristow.

The Secretary begs leave to lay before the Board copies of his letters to the Vizier, Mr. Bristow, and to Mr. Wombwell.

Sir,

I transmit to you inclosed for your information, by order of the Governor General and Council, a translation and copies of letters written by the Governor General to his Excellency the Vizier. You and your assistants will withdraw from Lucknow when Mr. Wombwell informs you that he has obtained the securities specified in the former.

Council Chamber,  
Secret Department,  
31st Decemr. 1783.

(Sung)

I am, &c.  
(Signed)

E. HAY,  
Secy.

Sir,

I obey the orders of the Honourable the Governor General and Council, in requiring you to repair immediately to Lucknow: and the Residency being withdrawn from that station, on his Excellency the Vizier's offer, on such condition, to give the security of bankers of honour, credit, and responsibility, for the discharge of the balance due from his Excellency to the Company, and for the growing payments of the subsidy and other current expences, it is the Board's command, that you receive such security from the Vizier, and the charge from Mr. Bristow of the accompts and papers of his office: It is the Board's order also that you remain at Lucknow, for the purpose of keeping the accompts of payments made from the Vizier to the Company. The Vizier has been desired to give Mr. Bristow leave in form to withdraw, when his Excellency has given the security before mentioned, and not till then. I inclose two letters to the Vizier from the Governor General, and two to Mr. Bristow, which you are directed to deliver to them respectively, immediately on your arrival at Lucknow.

Fort William,  
Secret Department,  
3d Jan. 1784.

(Signed)

I am, &c.

E. HAY,  
Secy.

The following letters having been received from Mr. Bristow on the 5th and 12th instant, were circulated to the members of the Board for their perusal.

Gentlemen,

I beg leave to inform you, from intelligence transmitted to me by Major Brown, that it appears that the Seiks have formed designs of renewing their depredations at the usual season of the year. I referred this intelligence to the consideration of Colonels Morgan and Cumming, and at the same time expressed my opinion that there was no immediate cause of alarm. Should, however, the Seiks attempt the invasion of the Vizier's dominions, the troops at Bareilly and Futty Ghur would be a sufficient force to repel them.

Within these few days I have received information from Lieutenant Colonel Knutson, corroborating the circumstances mentioned in Major Brown's letter; I have in consequence addressed  
Colonel

Colonel Cumming a second time on the subject, and have recommended a continuance of the detachment in Rohilcund, as a measure absolutely necessary at this period, both on account of the defence of the country against the Seiks, and to assist in enforcing payment of the Company's assignments on Mahomed Cauzim Cawn and Rajah Senut Sing: the former in particular, has shewn great dilatoriness in paying his kists, there being a balance due from him of one lack and forty-nine thousand rupees (Rs 1,49,000) exclusive of last year's balance. The sum total of the assignments on these Amils is thirty-one lacks.

I have the honour, &c.

Lucknow,  
26th Dec. 1783.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,  
Resident at the Vizer's Court.

Gentlemen,

I have been honoured with your letter of the 16th ultimo, enjoining me to be careful that no act or permission of mine do, in any instance, or in the smallest degree, counteract your directions given to Colonel Sir John Cumming, to prevent any emigrations of Europeans from the camp at Fatty Ghur.

At the time Mr. McLean first applied to me, it was in the character of deputy boat agent, and as such I procured him his Highness's purwannahs for carrying on the public service.

The bankers here not being able to give bills on Ettiah, I have written to Colonel Charles Morgan, to know when, and in what manner, he chuses the money should be sent or remitted on his arrival in his Highness's dominions.

I am, &c.

Lucknow,  
2d Jan. 1784.

JOHN BRISTOW,  
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Gentlemen,

I had last night the pleasure to receive from Colonel Martin a copy of his answers to the interrogatories which the Honourable Board thought proper to put to him relative to the complaints exhibited against me by the Vizier, and his minister Hyder Beg Khan. After having given them the most attentive perusal, I cannot help remarking, that these answers, wherever they are supported by the personal knowledge of Colonel Martin, far from leading to a condemnation of my conduct, do, as I now humbly conceive, very strongly corroborate the arguments and evidence I have already had the honour to submit to you, in refutation of the malicious charges of the minister; and shew clearly, that in all my intercourse with him, it was my fixed resolution to be invariably and solely guided by my instructions. For the rest, Gentlemen, the relation of Colonel Martin has heard at Third and Fourth Places, and from Third and Fourth Persons, as he must be very certain it would not be received as evidence before any tribunal on earth, so I am surprised Colonel Martin, under this conviction, should have put himself to the trouble of recording it; more especially, as it was impossible that he should be ignorant that many of the facts and transactions of which he speaks, to wit, the Adawlut, &c. had they even existed but in report, must, from the nature of them, have been capable of the most direct and positive Proof. I can as little reconcile it to candour, that Colonel Martin should heretofore have listened to, or that he should now repeat, tales so injurious to the reputations of the persons whom they pointed at; when, by his own confession, they were for the most part communicated to him by the parties whose interest it confessedly was to invent and circulate them. I would not be understood, Gentlemen, from any thing I have here said, to intend no further reply to Colonel Martin's narrative. On the contrary, however lightly I may judge of it, my respect for the Honourable Board, who placed me in my present situation, and the attention due to my own honour, which I consider as intimately depending upon my conduct in it, equally determine me not to suffer the most distant imputation to pass unnoticed. I shall therefore be as early as possible in submitting to the Honourable Board such an exposition of the performance in question, as, I trust, will render this last effort of the minister to injure my character, and impeach my veracity, by an appeal to Colonel Martin's testimony, as harmless and impotent as any that have preceded

preceded it. To prepare this dispatch, I must, however, request from the Honourable Board the indulgence of a few days; and the rather, because my time is at present much engaged by a variety of public business, which cannot safely be postponed.

I have the honour, &c.

Lucknow,  
21st Jan'y 1784.

JOHN BRISTOW,  
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

A few days since, the Resident at the Vizier's court communicated to me some suspicions he had entertained with regard to the intentions of Almas's Ally Khan, stating, that he apprehended a design to attack the magazine at Cawnpore in the absence of the brigade, and to carry off the artillery and ammunition. Though I do not give entire credit to the information, yet, as it is not impossible but such an event might happen, I have taken every precaution in my power to render the attempt, if made, ineffectual.

I have therefore, on the request of Major Maclary, sent twenty artillery men and forty lascars to Cawnpore, to assist in working the guns. I have completed the field ammunition for actual service; and have also ordered the detachment, under the command of Colonel Knutson, at Bareilly, to march half the way back to Futt'y Ghur, in order that it might be able to join me in the space of two days, should an actual commencement of hostilities render a junction unnecessary.

I have recommended to Major Maclary to cross the magazine, which I believe is already in boats, and the artillery, to the east side of the river, which would put it out of Almas's power to lay hold of either before he might be relieved by the troops at this place.

I was averse to ordering Colonel Knutson to join immediately, because I thought it might alarm the country, perhaps, without sufficient foundation. I shall, however, hold the troops here in readiness to march, the moment I understand there is a necessity for their service.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) JOHN CUMMING, Colonel.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have been honoured with your letters of the 16th December 1783. You are pleased to observe you have received letters from Mr. Bristow, on the subject of some complaints made by Mr. George Maclean, in regard to the detention and plunder of some boats and bulgerows in the country of Sandy Pallee, rented by Buffont Roy, and the treatment of his people by the Jemmedars, &c. in that district.

You are further pleased to observe, you know not who Mr. Maclean is, nor under what authority he carries on any dealings in the Vizier's country, not having the permission of your Honourable Board to reside there; and express your displeasure at his being permitted to engage in private trade, not having a licence. I shall give all the satisfaction I am able regarding Mr. George Maclean, and the transaction alluded to in your letter.

Mr. Maclean acted at this station as agent for the boat contractor. Several months ago he reported to me, that many of the boats and bulgerows stood in need of great repairs; that he could not procure timber here for that purpose, nor any where nearer than Pilibutt; and requested my assistance to procure it, by giving him letters to the Aumil (then Cajah Ain ul deen Khan). I informed him that my letters could be of no use, as no regard would be paid to them; and that I did not chuse to interfere in any thing that regarded the officers of the Vizier's government.

He then requested my permission to go to Lucknow, which I granted him. On his return he informed me, that through Mr. Bristow's influence he had obtained a Purwannah from the Vizier, and that Mr. Bristow had given him letters to the Aumil Cajah Ain ul deen Khan, desiring

desiring he would protect and assist him in his business and purchases. As the public service did not require his close attendance, he had my permission to go to Pylibut, being warranted by the Vizier's authority obtained for him by Mr. Bristow. He then proceeded on the above business, and, as he afterwards informed me, had his boats and budgerows plundered by the people of Sandy Pallee. I believe he sustained a very considerable loss; and I must do him the justice to add, that I never heard a complaint against him whilst he was at this station; and believe him to be both a quiet and industrious man, and perfectly inoffensive in his dealings.

Many acts of violence having been committed by the people of Sandy Pallee, at the requisition of the Vizier, I sent over a detachment to assist Bussunt Roy, the Aumil, in apprehending those guilty of those outrages: but, finding the troops were employed in a manner different from what they were designed for, I recalled them. This is all I know of Mr. Maclean's transactions.

The Resident, however, has it in his power to give the Honourable Board every information they can wish on this subject.

With respect to empowering any person, whether European or Native, to carry on any trade in the Vizier's country, I have never thought myself in any degree authorized; my influence in this country is bounded by the centres of the camp. In procuring grain for the troops, to keep them from starving during the late scarcity, I have been obliged to write in strong terms to some of the Aumils, and to send out some detachments; but this was not done without repeated orders from his Excellency for this purpose, the Aumils paying no regard to his orders.

Jan'y 4th, 1784.

Futty Ghur.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) JOHN CUMMING, Col.

The following letters from Colonels James Morgan and Ironside to the Commander in Chief, having been yesterday received by the secretary, were circulated to the members of the Board.

To Major General Stibbert.

Sir,

In consequence of Captain Scott your secretary's letter of the 18th instant, I do myself the honour to acquaint you, that, immediately upon the sentence of the General Court Martial being published, I gave out an order, directing Ensign Connor to proceed directly down to the presidency. Inclosed I have the honour to transmit you a copy of a letter I have received from Major M'Clary: it confirms my opinion of Almas Ali Cawn's having no intention to offer offence to our government, or to create disturbances in the country.

I beg leave to acquaint you, that the 3d brigade arrived this morning near the bank of the river, and will cross over to-morrow to Bhardwar. They are to march from thence on the following day; and the second brigade will march on the same day, and take up their ground at Bhardwar.

On the 3d of January my Brigade will all cross over, and I shall prosecute my march down to the presidency without loss of time.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Camp, Muty Ranshe Talha,  
31 December 1783.

(Signed)

JAMES MORGAN,  
Col. commd 2 Brigade.

To Colonel James Morgan.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you, that in consequence of my requisition to Sir John Cumming for a few artillery men, he has thought proper to send me 20 Europeans and 40 Lascars, under the command of a subaltern officer.

Mr.

Mr. Bristow has also, in consequence of my request to him for a few companies (if he deemed the Aumil hostile) sent me a battalion from Khryabad, Captain M'Leod's corps, and two companies of the third regiment under the command of Lieutenant Wroughton.

This force I conceive to be unnecessary, as the Aumil does not appear to me to entertain any designs dangerous to our government.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Cawnpore,  
27th Decr 1783.

(Signed) W. M'CLARY,  
Major commanding at Cawnpore,

A true Copy.

(Signed) H. Lloyd,  
Secy to Col. Morgan.

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To Major General Stibbert.

Sir,

The brigade crossed the Ganges to Allahabad the 1st instant, and the second brigade passed it on the 2d.

The hospital boats are not yet come up; if they do not arrive, however, to-morrow; I shall no longer wait for them, but order the brigade to proceed on the 5th towards Cawnpore; where we should have been before this, had not the delays occasioned by making the deposits of grain at different places impeded our progress.

On delivery of the invoices of grain brought from Patna to Mr. Fowke, he observed it would make a convenient supply for the second brigade on its way down; so that the Company, at all events, will not be put to any expence for that particular supply.

Inclosed I transmit a copy of a letter from Major M'Clary to Colonel Morgan, in consequence of which I shall order the ammunition brought from Chunar Ghur to be returned thither.

I am, &c.

Camp at Allahabad,  
3d Jan'y 1784.

(Signed) G. IRONSIDE,  
Coll.

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Major General Stibbert.

Sir,

In my letter of the 3d instant, I advised you that, in consequence of an address from Major M'Clary to Colonel Morgan, (of which I inclosed a copy) advising of their not being the smallest appearance of disturbances likely to be received by Almas Ally Cawn, it was my intention to return the ammunition I had seen dispatched from Chuna Ghur to that place. But being now informed by Ishmael Beg, and papers of intelligence, that the Aumil still keeps his force collected together in the neighbourhood of Rampoor, and that he has been distributing ammunition to his troops, I have altered that intention, and shall take one half of the cartridges along with me, and leave the other half here for the service of the fourteenth regiment of sepoy; which I have directed, conformably to your instructions, to relieve the battalions of the second brigade, stationed at this place and at Salhone. The leaving ammunition here is the more necessary, as the guard in the fort of Chounde is continually threatened by a considerable armed force of banditti in the neighbourhood of it.

The

The hospital boats did not arrive till yesterday, when all the recovered men were changed for such as were sick in camp. The troops were mustered to-day. The hospital has proceeded on, and the troops will follow to-morrow, without making any halt, until they arrive at Cawnpore.

I am, &c.

Camp near Allahabad,  
5th January 1784.

(Signed) G. IRONSIDE,  
Col.

Read the following letters from Mr. Bristow, to Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary, &c. &c.

Sir,

I have been favoured with your letter of the 23d ultimo, acquainting me that you had it in command from the Board to acknowledge the receipt of my address of the 29th of last month, and to acquaint me, that having thought fit to transmit certain interrogatories to Lieutenant Colonel Martin, for his replies to them, they had been pleased to direct Lieutenant Colonel Martin to furnish me with a copy of the letter, conformably to the orders sent him on the 13th of last month. You will oblige me, by taking an early opportunity to inform the Honourable Governor General and Council, that hitherto I have not heard from Lieutenant Colonel Martin.—The moment I am furnished by him with the replies in question, I shall not lose a moment in preparing and transmitting my answer to the Honourable Board.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow,  
9th Dec. 1783.

JOHN BRISTOW,  
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I this day had the honour to receive your commands of the 10th of September, informing me of the separation you had thought proper to make in the duties of your secretary, in the secret, and political, and public departments.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

Lucknow,  
21st Decr 1783.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,  
Resident at Vizir Court.

Gentlemen,

Having waited thus long in expectation of receiving Lieutenant Colonel Martin's replies to the interrogatories proposed to him by the Honourable Board, as communicated to me through your secretary, in a letter dated the 23d ultimo, I have taken the liberty of applying to Lieutenant Colonel Martin on the subject. I have the honour to send you enclosed transcripts of my application, and his answer, and beg leave to assure you, that as soon as I am furnished with the copies mentioned in the letter, I shall not lose a moment in preparing and transmitting my answer to them.

I am, &c.

Lucknow,  
30th Decr 1783.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,  
Resident at the Vizir's Court.

COPY of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, to Lieutenant Colonel Claud Martin; dated Lucknow, 29th December 1783.

I beg leave to send you enclosed a copy of a letter from the Honourable Board, through their secretary; whenever the replies to the interrogatories referred to are ready, I will be obliged to you for them, conformably to the orders sent you.

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Colonel Martin's Answer; the same Date.

I have received the letter you have been pleased to write to me this morning; and in conformity to the command of the Honourable Board, I will send you copy of my answer to the interrogatories as soon as they are copied.

True Copies.

(Signed) J. NEAVE,  
Assist. to the Rest.

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Gentlemen,

I have now the honour to enclose you my correspondence with the minister in reference to the conduct of Almas Ally Cawn, and the suspicions which, in consequence of that conduct, I have been led to entertain of his fidelity. This circumstance I have already briefly treated of in my address to the Honourable Board, under date the 20th ultimo.

I submit to you, gentlemen, who are in full possession of the detail of his administration, with what propriety Hyder Beg Cawn still continues to force upon your representative professions of zeal and attachment, or how he can reconcile the pretended readiness of his obedience to the constant breach of your most positive commands. A striking example of the opposition of his theory and practice is now before you. In my instructions, under the head of Aumils, is the following direction: "Great care must be taken in the choice of Aumils. I shall not descend to particulars, but enjoin one caution only as *indispensably necessary*, that no Aumil be appointed to a frontier station, without such pledge or other security for compelling his personal appearance whenever required, as may insure, beyond a doubt, his obedience and fidelity; and both these, and others, wherever stationed, ought to have the means of self-protection, and to be trusted and supported." The minister writing to me, in explanation of the measures he judged advisable to adopt for the purpose of ascertaining Almas's intentions, upon which subject we had already conversed, expresses himself as follows: "And in regard to the letter from Almas Ally Cawn, acquainting you that he would wait upon you in the middle of Phoos with the arrangements of his country, I said it appeared to me best to write to him, encouraging him to come; for, by the time your letter reached him, the seven or eight remaining days of Phoos would be over. If he comes, it removes all doubts; if not, whatever you order I will execute, if you think proper immediately to counteract him to command it." From which recital of his own words, it is evident, that the precautions pointed out and enjoined in the extract of my instructions herein above mentioned, although strongly and repeatedly recalled to the recollection and observance of the minister by me, have been wholly disregarded by him. That Almas is left in absolute possession of frontier countries yielding an annual revenue of above sixty lacks of rupees, without any pledge or security whatever for his obedience and fidelity, for his personal appearance, or for the due performance of his engagements with government—that consequently it is as much as ever in his power to pause upon the orders of his Sovereign, and to obey or refuse the summons that calls him to the presence, as his inclination or his interest may direct. Since the effects must now in every respect be the same, it is not, I apprehend, necessary to enter into an examination of the motives that in this instance may have prompted the minister to such an ill-advised deviation from the prescribed rule of his conduct. To whatever cause it is attributed, whether to a contempt of your authority, to habitual indolence, or to collusion, Hyder Beg Cawn is equally without excuse; and by so much the more, as he was well acquainted with the character, disposition, and past demeanour of Almas; and these certainly did not in any shape entitle the latter either to indulgence or confidence. To this wilfulness or folly on the part of the minister, is added a mockery of the grossest nature, when, under the conviction of having, by his own management, precluded all possibility of option, he gravely solicits to be favoured with my

my final determination, promising to acquiesce in it; as if our situation admitted of a choice of expedients, and that to resolve and execute were alike easy; yet, whilst he holds this language, he is perfectly convinced of the existence of a dilemma, created by himself, which reduces his Prince to the disgraceful necessity of temporizing with the most intolent among his subjects, or adopting the ruinous alternative of compelling his obedience by the sword. In the mean time, gentlemen, Almas neither pays his revenues (a), or shews any disposition to perform his promise, or comply with the Nabob's demands to return to Lucknow, although the period fixed by himself is already elapsed. Before I conclude this letter, I must take the liberty to solicit your orders upon the subject of it; as also with respect to the several special matters heretofore submitted to you. In thus renewing my request to your Honourable Board for the interposition of your authority to correct the multiplied evils and abuses of this government, I trust I shall be excused by the necessity of a remedy, and my own utter inability to apply any whatever.

Lucknow,  
6th January 1784.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,  
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

(a) Out of 48 lacks, I have only received 450,000 rupees.

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TRANSLATION of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court,  
to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated 18th Mohurum, 1198 Heijira.

It was always customary for Almas Ally Cawn to pay his kists in advance. This year he does not pay them when due; and, in comparison with the other Aumils, pays but a small portion. This is astonishing, and gives me doubts of his intentions. He has carried off his effects, as well as the effects of his dependants and their families, from Lucknow; and it is reported that there is a correspondence between him and Mahajee Scindia, for which reason I have wrote to you, that, should you credit it, you may reflect thereon, and act accordingly.

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TRANSLATION of a Letter from Hyder Beg Cawn to Mr. John Bristow, Resident  
at the Vizier's Court; dated Mohurum 19th, 1198 Hugerie.

I have received your letter regarding Almas Ally Cawn.—Whatever you order, I am ready to obey.—I shall wait upon you to receive your orders, and will act with all my endeavours accordingly.

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TRANSLATION of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated  
Mohurum 20th, 1198 Hugarrie.

I have received your letter in reply to mine. It was the intention of my former letter to enquire whether you credited these reports concerning Almas Ally Cawn or not, that, should they be well-founded, whatever you judged proper to be done you would write to me: Nothing can be settled on a business of such importance, except by a written correspondence. It is necessary that you, who are his Excellency's minister, should contrive means for the safety and protection of his country, and the collection of the revenues, and acquaint me of your intentions by letter.

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TRANSLATION of a Letter from Hyder Beg Cawn to Mr. J. Bristow, Resident at  
the Vizier's Court.

I have received your letter regarding Almas Ally Cawn:—Your hirkara's and news writers that were with him have communicated the intelligence. It is my business to enquire into affairs.  
—It

—It is the command of my Prince you should be the master upon this subject; whatever you order shall be done without excuse: I will wait upon you to-morrow to receive your orders, which shall be executed.

TRANSLATION of a Letter from Mr. J. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated Moharrum 20th, 1198 Hejery.

At our consultation this day concerning Almas Ally Cawn, you informed me, "That the news writers and hurkarra's of Rajah Poorum Chund, who were constantly passing and re-passing, had communicated no intelligence whatever relative to a connection or correspondence between Mahajee Scindia and Almas Ally Cawn, and no proofs thereof were established by them; that Zyne ul Abdein, the old and confidential adherent of Almas, had three months since placed his family at Culpee; that, according to the actual state of affairs, it was advisable to appoint Lalla Takoor Dafs (the said Cawn's Naib) to the charge of the district of Byfwanah, now under Ally Ackber, who had managed it ill, meaning thereby to secure Takoor Dafs's fidelity; and that all together, with this new and his old dependencies, he would hold countries yielding thirty lacks of rupees per annum: Besides, I should write to Mr. Anderson to prevent Mahajee Scindia from encouraging people from these quarters; that I should not mention Almas Ally Cawn's name, but write in general terms to Mr. Anderson, that the object might be obtained without disclosing the secret."

I have thus stated the substance of our consultation this day; and in case I should have committed any error in my explanation of it, be pleased to correct it.

Whereas I had received repeated intelligence of the said Cawn's alliance; and, considering the affair of importance, I apprized you of it. As Takoor Dafs will, more or less, have thirty lacks under his charge if Byfwanah be given to him, I by no means think the measure advisable to intrust that amount to any one person; excepting him, be pleased to give Byfwanah to whoever you please. I have wrote to Mr. Anderson. The letter which you prepared to Almas Ally Cawn at this juncture, I think, is a proper one; it will be presented to you by Moonshie Mahomed Tucker, that it may be dispatched.

TRANSLATION of a Letter from Hyder Beg Cawn to Mr. Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Regarding Almas Ally Cawn, I said, "whatever were your orders, I was ready to obey."—When I waited upon you, I asked, "if the intelligence had been communicated by the news writers?" You replied, "it had."—I then acquainted you, "that the hircarra's and news writers of Rajah Poorum Chund had not mentioned any of the circumstances" (I have their papers), and remarked, that "there might be perhaps an understanding between Almas and them, for which reason they were silent upon the subject."—You consulted with me about this matter—I said, "if it was true, whatever you thought was proper to be done, you would command." And, in regard to the letter from Almas Ally Cawn, acquainting you that he would wait upon you in the middle of Poos with the arrangements of his country, I said, "it appeared to me best to write to him, encouraging him to come; for by the time your letter reached him the seven or eight remaining days of Poos would be over: If he comes, it removes all doubts; if not, whatever you order I will execute, if you think proper immediately to counteract him to command it." To this you were pleased to say, "you would write to him." To your questions respecting Meer Zyne ul Abdein, I replied, "That he had, about six months ago, when Almas Ally Cawn was here, requested a small fort in the Eta district to keep his family there; but not succeeding, he procured a place for that purpose of Balladar Pundit, at Culpee." However, his family are not there even at this time; they are at Tickhory. The dwelling of people in general is not at Lucknow; they are from west to east in every city and town. It is never enquired where such people live: They follow their occupations to distant places. Regarding gaining the confidence of the Aumils of Almas Ally Cawn, I said, mentioning Takoor Dafs and the rest, "that there had been a correspondence, and, if it was your pleasure, I would renew it; that by the means of his own people every thing would be brought to light respecting Almas Ally Cawn's intentions." I advised, "to give to Takoor Dafs, and his two sons, who it is well known possess abilities, the management of affairs." This was

was what I represented to you, that you might give your orders accordingly: "That Bytswana should be given to him to secure his attachment; he will pay a Peishky to government. After one point is gained, you may have whatever part of the collections you think proper under his management." "To write to Mr. Anderson, desiring him to apply to Mahajee Scindia to discourage any of the people from his Excellency's dominions from settling in his country—to write in general terms; for until the point was gained, secrecy was necessary: That if any means were to be taken of counteracting, they should be applied with secrecy and dispatch; however, if it pleased you to write in plain terms, you would do so." This is what I advised during our conversation. It is customary in council for ministers to offer their sentiments according to their understandings, and for their superiors to do whatever appears to them best. Whatever you are pleased to order, I am ready to obey. I think it necessary to acquaint you of every thing to the best of my understanding. All the Aumils are alarmed that their situation may become the same as Khauja Ain ul Dien's. The report from far and near is carried to them, that he made excuses on account of the drought, and is now in prison. It will be their fate next, since no allowance will be made in their accounts for the drought. Whatever you please to order, regarding Almas Ally Cawn, I am ready to obey.

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TRANSLATION of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, &c. to Hyder Beg Cawn;  
dated 22 Mohurrun, 1198 Hejery.

I am favoured with your letter: Being in expectation of it, I had not forwarded the letter which I had prepared for Mr. Anderson and Almas Ally Cawn. I shall now, agreeable to your intimation, dispatch that to Mr. Anderson, and enclose another to Almas, couched in the terms you recommend, of encouragement: Be pleased to return it to me, if it meets with your approbation, that it may be sent away. In regard to conciliating and attaching the officers under Almas Ally Cawn and his Naibs to yourself, I highly approve; I have repeatedly apprized you of my opinion of the inexpediency of entrusting thirty lacks of rupees to any individual, and forbidden it.

The business now before us, is the consideration of the means whereby the money may be realized from Almas Ally Cawn, and the counteraction of his designs, should he have entertained any bad ones: The introduction of a conclusion not any way connected with the subject in question, does not forward the business; affairs are managed by zealous endeavours and loyalty, not by contrary positions, and a dispute about words. As you have introduced a comparison relative to the transactions with Khajah ain ul Deen, I shall reply to it concisely, with a view of preventing any opening to calumny before the Governor General and council.

I beg to be informed in what particular the good conduct of Khajah ain ul Deen has been ascertained. Is it a proof of it, that the province of Rohilcund is reduced to the Jumma of 20 lacks, and even to less than that sum; that it is in a state of devastation; besides which, that the ryots and inhabitants in general bewail the oppression he has exercised over them? There is an evident and plain answer to the terrors of all the Aumils, and Almas Ally Cawn in particular, from the confinement of Khajah ain ul Deen: The dissatisfaction and rebellion of Almas Ally Cawn last year was prior to my arrival, or the proceedings against Khajah ain ul Deen. I am to comprehend it is advisable that the punishment of a guilty person should be remitted, for fear of exciting the apprehension of other offenders. The Aumils have collected the revenue this year, and do collect it, and will leave no balance in the country. Seeing and comprehending the fact, I shall not forego the duty I owe to my superiors, and refrain from enjoining the punctual payment of the Company's assignments, from any conclusion drawn by you. It is incumbent also on you, sir, to afford me your hearty assistance.

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TRANSLATION of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court,  
to Almas Ally Cawn, dated Mohurrun 22d, 1198 Hejery.

Your letter, acquainting me that you had instructed your Aumils to make the arrangements of every village, and that you would present them to me yourself in the middle of Phoos, and regarding your former punctuality, is received. There is no doubt of your former punctuality. I am happy that you are so assiduous in the business of the collections. I think the sooner you come with the accounts of the arrangements the better, for every thing will be properly settled:

In the mean time you will remit whatever money you can; if you can send a large sum, it will be agreeable to the wishes of your friend.

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TRANSLATION of a Letter from Hyder Beg Cawn to Mr. Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Your letter is received. Whatever I related to you, I heard from others; they were not my own conclusions. I will be particular in relating to you every thing to-morrow, respecting the letter to Almas Ally Khan; if it meets with your approbation, you will send it; the state of the matter will be known. Whenever and whatever you are pleased to order me to, respecting Almas Ally Cawn, I am ready to obey without excuse.

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TRANSLATION of a Letter from Hyder Beg Cawn to Mr. Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Your letter, dated Mohurrun, 22d, astonished me. By what reason does my former letter appear to you merely nugatory? Whatever I mentioned regarding the confinement of Khaja ain ul Deen, and that people from far and near alarmed the Aumils, by causing them to suppose that the same fate would be theirs, is not a conclusion of mine; it is the report of those persons you confide in, and who wish to alarm the Aumils, that they may resign their office: This, to my understanding, appeared improper, for which reason I represent it to you; in return, you were pleased to write that it was a conclusion of mine. I am the minister; to act so, is not my business: I did not mean under this veil to recommend either Khaja ain ul Deen, nor Almas Ally Khan; I only told you, clearly and plainly, what others said, and what appeared to me improper. Had I known that it was your inclination that they should talk in this manner, I would not have represented it to you.

Why have you been pleased to apply the word loyalty? The English gentlemen who were here formerly, and all the world, know that for six or seven years past I have acted for both governments, which are in reality united, with zeal. Whenever you will please to judge impartially, you will not trust those who are interested: My zealous conduct is established, and will continue. I am ready with my life in the service. Lacks of rupees have been and will be lost, from the advice of the interested; but these are to be imputed to me; justice is in the hands of superiors. I shall not give my opinion regarding Khaja ain ul Deen's business: They who are interested may advise whatever suits them. Regarding the Jumma of Rohilcund last year, somebody has been mistaken in their representation, by 15 lacks of rupees; the deficiency has either been occasioned by the drought, or the mismanagement of somebody. The country is hundreds of miles wide, and contains lacks of inhabitants, that are afflicted with a calamity from heaven. Mahomed Cazim Cawn is a confidential person, and holds fourteen mehals in that country. Enquire in justice what is the reason of the deficiency?—You say “you are to comprehend that the punishment of the guilty should be remitted, for fear of alarming other offenders.” To punish all alike is proper; you have punished one person for the same offence that others are guilty of. They who have pleaded the drought as an excuse, when it is not felt in their districts—who have been indulged with diminutions, and have been credited for extraordinary charges—they are at their ease employed in the collections, and hold others in ridicule. They have this year endeavoured to make the khreef harvest fall short: I have represented to you that they were not right, for the deficiency is not so much. The money is to be collected with pains. I related to you that Neger Ally Beg, the Aumil of Goonda, refused to answer for more than two lacks of rupees of the Tunkaws; he however gave a bond for three lacks of rupees: And in this manner the others would be made to give bonds. They who mismanaged would not pay, nor will they at present. I am settling affairs; but you point out a different mode. Interested people have not so much zeal for the service as I have: they extend their wishes of a failure beyond their own districts.

Regarding Almas Ally Cawn, whatever you are pleased to order, I shall not hesitate to obey. It is impossible to disclose the intentions of any person's heart: if he comes, it will remove all doubts. Thinking this a matter of importance, I have taken the liberty of offering my sentiments upon it, in hopes you will afford me your assistance; that the business of both governments,

ments, which are in reality united, be accomplished; and I may be safe from the calumny of the interested, and perform my duty satisfactorily.

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TRANSLATION of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, &c. to Hyder Beg Cawn;  
dated Mohurrem 26th, 1198 Hejery.

Your letter of the 24th, in reply to mine of the 22d instant, I have received. I am surprised at understanding its contents, which are a contradiction to notorious facts: On this account I deem it right to answer you in the most concise terms, and a few words will suffice. More than three months have elapsed since I have repeatedly addressed you, both verbally and by letter, to realize the kists, settle the districts and affairs dependant on Mirza Caffim, Mirza Mahomed Haffim Cawn, &c. You now hold a language in direct opposition to my conduct; that "these Aumils are worthy of confidence; that they are confirmed in their offices, and look at others with ridicule." I consider a reply to such observations as totally useless.

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TRANSLATION of a Letter from Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply to Mr. Bristow's  
dated 26th Mohurrem 1198.

I have received your letter. I represented to you the situation of those persons who occasioned losses to government, are continued in office, confided in, and ridicule others. You are pleased to say, "this is an entire contradiction of notorious facts, and astonishing to you. I have repeatedly directed you to attend to the realization of the revenue, and settlement of the affairs of Mahomed Caffim, Mahomed Haffim Cawn, &c. The replying to such assertions is totally useless." My bountiful sir, many just affairs, which are clearly a loss to government, I do not represent to you; from this apprehension, that my representations do not meet with your approbation. You are pleased to tell me, that "a reply to these is totally useless; but in every affair which I have stated to you, whenever you will do me the favour to ascertain my representation in an equitable way, there will appear no deviation. That person who is the incendiary, and interrupter of the affairs of government, causes lacks of rupees loss in the Jumma, and in the extravagant charges: He affords protection to other Aumils, and is in your confidence: The Aumils you have specified by name, and some other persons, are all under his influence: The Aumils who are his dependants, and by whose hands whatever loss has accrued or does accrue to government, are gratified thereby in their dependance on him; and they speak their sentiments of their hearts regarding other Aumils, and even regarding the Vizier himself. I have not settled the districts under their charge, as you have directed me, for some days past, from the following apprehension: That, in conjunction with that person, every one is intoxicated with fabricating aerial tales and slander; and no person consents to take those districts, "lest, from verbal and written calumny, disgrace should ultimately fall upon us;" and I also am apprehensive. You are the magistrate and the master; I am the official agent. Being helpless I have represented thus much of these matters to you.

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TRANSLATION of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated 27th  
Mohurrim 1198.

This day we consulted concerning Almas Ally Cawn; and, to prevent mistakes, I commit to writing what passed. The particulars are as follows: That we agreed, until an answer was received from the letters addressed to Almas Ally Cawn and Tahoor Dofs, on whom you depended, any further measures regarding the said Cawn should be delayed; and, provided he did not return a satisfactory answer with respect to the payment of his kists, that his going away was preferable to his remaining on the present footing; in which case, performing the duties of loyalty, immediate measures should be followed to secure the revenue, and the peace and safety of the country. Be pleased to favour me with an answer.

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TRANSLATION of Hyder Beg Cawn's Reply to the former.

I am favoured with your letter. Before this I represented to you, and I do so now: that I will perform whatever orders you may be pleased to give me. On my part there is no excuse against my

my obedience to your orders; you are the master and the magistrate; if it is your pleasure, apprise his Highness; if not, it is well. Whatever may be your orders, I will obey. In two of your letters, the word loyalty is introduced to persons who fail in the duties of loyalty; this still is applicable: interested people before now have likewise traduced me with various and various calumnies, not a tittle of which have been proved; now doubts of my loyalty are entertained. I hope you will plainly specify the acts in which I have failed in my loyalty; that, being informed, I may reply thereto. Among us poor men of Hindostan, this word is very bad, that Chiefs and Princes should use it to the obedient, and servants, without the proof of any crime. Out of your favour be pleased to inform me, in plain terms, why you have applied it to me. I will state other affairs, on paying my respects to you. In approving or not approving, you are the master.

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TRANSLATION of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn, 30th Mohurum 1198.

I am favoured with your letter in answer to mine: Be pleased to specify the persons and place which are in the state you describe. I hope you will favour me with the particulars of every Aumil, together with the settlement of the actual receipts and expences, for my information. I am always ready to afford you my assistance and support.

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TRANSLATION of Hyder Beg Cawn's Reply.

I am favoured with your letter. You order me to give you the names of places and persons. Before this I stated the circumstances to you, and furnished you with the accounts: Again agreeable to your orders, they shall be presented to you.

A true translation.

(Signed) ROBT GREGORY,  
Assist to the Res<sup>t</sup> at the Vizier's Court.

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EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 3d February 1784.

The following letters having been received from Mr. Bristow on the 21st ultimo, they were circulated for the perusal of the members of the Board.

Gentlemen,

Inclosed I have the honour to transmit you a copy of a letter I have received from Mr. James Anderson; and, as I conceived the subject to be a matter of importance, I informed him of my intentions to make a reference to your Honourable Board: At the same time I called upon the acting minister, Hyder Beg Cawn, to point out the most eligible means of preventing undue exactions, and also obviate commotions natural on the assembly of so numerous a body of pilgrims.

Mr. Anderson having mentioned the exactions made by the Subah of Allahabad, I requested him to ascertain under what pretences, and through whom, they were collected. The Vizier has repeatedly issued his commands, forbidding any more being required than the authorized duties; and I have spoke myself to the Subah on the subject. He excuses his own conduct; and informs me there are, besides himself, many other persons (particularly the Killedar) in authority at Allahabad, independent of him; that he has enjoined his own people to avoid making such exactions, and precluded every complaint as far as lies in his power.

Lucknow,  
10th January 1784.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,  
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

COPY

COPY of a letter from Mr. James Anderson to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Court of the Vizier, dated Scindia's Camp, 3d January, 1784.

Bow Buckfey yesterday informed me, that Scindia had received intelligence of a very large party of pilgrims, amounting to 10 or 12,000, having reached Saghur, in their way to the Decan. He observed, that, having already made so many applications for exemptions of duties, he could not think of making more, especially in the present instance, where the amount was such as to render it an object of consideration to his Excellency: but he hoped that on this occasion some fixed and certain regulations might be laid down, so that the pilgrims may be exempted from the arbitrary exactions of the Aumil of Allahabad. He said, that although the oppressions exercised over the pilgrims there were such as had occasioned great complaints, yet he had reason to believe that they were unknown to his Excellency; who, he understood, derived but little benefit from this branch of his revenue, in comparison of what it was capable of yielding him, without any burthen to the pilgrims, if properly regulated. And he was the more earnest on this point, because the fame of the attention shewn last year to Sevajee Eetul, had induced many Mahrattas of high rank either to proceed themselves, or send their families, to make the pilgrimage this year. From the intelligence he had received from Poonah, of other parties, besides the present, which were to set out on this account from thence in the course of this season, he supposed that, including such as had accompanied Moodajee's daughter from Nagpore, the sum of the whole pilgrims this year from the Deckan would be little less than 50,000.

I informed Bow Buckfey, in reply, that I would not fail to communicate this matter to you; but that, as your own judgment, founded on your superior information of the subject, would suggest to you how far it was proper to make any application to his Excellency with regard to the establishment of new regulations, that is (as he afterwards explained himself) the fixing a particular assessment on each horseman, footman, palankeen, &c. I could not, therefore, give him any assurances on this head. In the mean time, as the request of Scindia, in the limited view in which I am capable of considering it, appears not unreasonable; and as I am certain, from the interest he takes in the concerns of the pilgrims, that a compliance with it would gratify him extremely; I beg leave to recommend it to your consideration. It is not, I understand, his wish, that his Excellency should suffer any detriment; but only, in fixing the particular rates himself, it may not be in the power of the Aumils to exact beyond them.

A true copy.

(Signed) J. N E A V E,  
Assistant to the Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

In my letters of the 13th and 20th ultimo, I had the honour to acquaint you with the reasons that induced me to reinforce the troops left for the defence of Cawnpore; since then, Colonel Morgan having deemed two regiments and a battalion of sepoy a sufficient force for the protection of the magazine, &c. at that place, Major Maclary has, at my requisition, ordered the two companies of the third regiment, and the Resident's guard, to return to their respective stations.

Subsequent to my letter of the 6th instant, I have received further accounts from Almas Ally Cawn's camp, of his having secured a retreat for himself and his dependants in Mahajy Scindia's dominions, and also of his close connection with that chief. Three days ago his Vackeel again left Lucknow, with a letter from me, explaining in general terms my sentiments of his conduct, and requiring a final settlement of the revenue he proposed paying.

I have represented to you, in my address of 22d ultimo, the distress of the troops at Futtly Ghur. I now have the honour to enclose extracts of two other letters on the same subject, which I have since received from Colonel Sir John Cumming. I have the pleasure to inform you, that I have furnished his detachment with above a lack and a half of rupees, and shall shortly send a further supply.

I have the honour, &c.

Lucknow,  
11th January, 1784.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,  
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

EXTRACT of a letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming to Mr. Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, dated Fatty Ghur, 22d December, 1783.

We have not a day's provision beforehand, nor scarcely know whence to procure any subsistence; but what heightens our distress, is the total want of money, without which I do not think we could march, however urgent the occasion might be.

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EXTRACT of a letter from ditto, of the same date.

Our distress for money and grain is such, that never any troops in this service before experienced. With respect to grain, I know it is not in your power to give us assistance, as the officers of the Vizier's government pay no attention to any letters from him or you, and have never furnished one seer.

I have to beg of you to dispatch Lieutenant Browne with whatever money you can furnish, however small the sum; and I have ordered Lieutenant Peché, who was gone to Cawnpore with a detachment of artillery, to proceed from thence to Lucknow, and he will escort any money that may be ready there for this station.

True extracts.

(Signed)

J. NEAVE,  
Assistant to the Resident  
at the Vizier's Court.

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The following letter, and its inclosures, received from Mr. Bristow on the 28th ultimo, and immediately circulated to the members of the Board.

Gentlemen,

Enclosed I have the honour to transmit you a copy of a letter I have received from Lieutenant Colonel Knudson.

I am, &c.

Lucknow,  
18th January, 1784.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,  
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

COPY of a letter from Lieutenant Colonel Knudson to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, dated Camp near Baralli, 8th January, 1784.

I have to inform you, that I have received advice of a large body of Seiks, said to amount to 20,000 cavalry, being arrived at Burrin, a place on the banks of the Jumna. The near vicinity of so formidable a body of these freebooters, with the rumour which prevails of their designing to attempt an entrance in this province by the Ghaut, between Durana Ghur and the Hardawar, has greatly alarmed the inhabitants of the districts in that neighbourhood; and as Rajah Soocut Sing, the Aumil of this country, has in consequence applied to me to take measures for preserving the tranquillity of those parts, I have addressed Colonel Sir John Cumming for his instructions regarding the advancing of my detachment; in the mean while I have sent orders to the officer commanding the Vizier's forces to keep a vigilant guard over the Ghauts.

His Highness the Vizier, I hear, will not be at this place before the middle of this month.— When he arrives, I shall wait on his Highness, agreeable to his desire, and inform him of every circumstance which may have come to my knowledge concerning the Seiks and the other powers on these frontiers.

It is with pleasure I here inform you, that the long-wished for rain, which we have lately had in great abundance in these parts, has happily relieved the inhabitants from the fear they were under

under of a famine, owing to the long drought, and given a new and happy turn to the face of this country. The price of grain in consequence thereof is exceedingly fallen.

A true Copy.

(Signed)

J. NEAVE,

Assistant to the Resident

at the Vizier's Court.

The Accomptant General not having been yet informed of the withdrawing of the Residency from Lucknow, or the resolution taken to accept the security of bankers of known credit and responsibility for the payment of the balance due from the Vizier to the Company, and of the current kists, and of the directions given to Mr. Wombwell;

Ordered, That the Secretary do make him acquainted therewith.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 17th February, 1784.*

THE following letter, and its enclosure, having been received from Mr. Bristow, on the 6th instant, were circulated to the members of the Board for their perusal.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

Immediately on the receipt of your commands of the 31st ultimo, I addressed his Highness, who was absent in Rohilcund upon a hunting party, and transmitted a copy of my address to his minister, Hyder Beg Cawn; copies of these, and the answers I received, I take the liberty to transmit you in the accompanying paper.—The Vizier reached me only this day.

My continuance at this court now depends upon the Vizier; I shall leave Lucknow whenever his Highness performs his part of the engagement, and gives me my leave of departure. In order to prevent any unnecessary delay or counteraction of the plan you have thought proper to adopt, I have solely employed my time, since the receipt of your orders of recall, in adjusting the affairs of my Residency, which unavoidably precluded me from a possibility of completing my observations on Lieutenant Colonel Martin's answers to the interrogatories, and will, I hope, be deemed a sufficient excuse for my postponing them, or any final explanation on the state of your affairs in these provinces, until I proceed upon my journey to the Presidency.

I have the honour, &c.

Lucknow,  
28th Jan. 1784.

(Signed)

JOHN BRISTOW,

Resident at the Vizier's Court.

*TRANSLATION of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to his Highness the Vizier, dated 20th January 1784, or 26th Suffer 1198.*

The Honourable Governor General and Council having agreed to your Highness's offer, of paying the debt to the Company, and the current kists, they have in conformity thereto communicated their commands to me, and directed that whenever Mr. Wombwell should receive from your Highness the stipulated security, to inform me of it, and I, and the gentlemen connected with my office, should leave Lucknow. I have the honour to represent to your Highness, that I am ready to obey the orders of the Honourable the Governor General and Council; and in the execution of them, agreeable to their commands, and from the long attachment which is impressed upon my heart towards your Highness, I shall conform to your directions in the mode of relinquishing my office, so as to prevent as much as possible any interruption in the affairs of your government.

From

From Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn, 21st January 1784, or 27th Suffer 1198.

A copy of the letter which I had yesterday the honour to address to his Highness, I enclose for your information.

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Hyder Beg in Reply.

I have received your letter; the contents of the address you dispatched to his Highness, and of which you favoured me with a copy, are made known to me.—It is probable his Highness will speedily arrive.

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From the Vizier to Mr. Bristow: Received the 27th January, 1784.

I have received your letter, and understand the contents. I shall shortly arrive at Lucknow, when at our meeting all affairs will be concluded. I shall arrive quickly.

A true Translation.

JOHN BRISTOW,  
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

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The following Letter, and its enclosures, were received from Mr. Wombwell, Accountant at Lucknow, on the 7th instant, and circulated to the members of the Board; and in consequence of their directions, a copy of the security engagement of Lallah Buchefanje and Faqueer Chund was sent a number in the packet per ship Lord Macartney.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have the honour to transmit to you the copy of a letter I have received from the Vizier, and a translation of the security (the original being with me) offered by the Vizier for the discharge of the balance due from his Excellency to the Company, and for the growing payments of the Subsidy, and other current expences.

I am, &c.

Lucknow,  
27th Jan. 1784.

(Signed) J. WOMBWELL,  
Accountant.

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From the Vizier to Mr. Wombwell: Received 7th February 1784.

A letter from the Governor General to me is arrived, in which, after expressing his own regard, and that of the gentlemen of the Council, to my situation, he desires I will procure teeps from the banks for the sums due to the Company, and deliver them to you. The teeps are accordingly sent to you, and you will therefore act agreeable to the orders of the Governor General and gentlemen of the Council.

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TRANSLATION of the Engagement from Lala Butchrauje and Faquir Chund to become security for the balance due to the Company from the Vizier, and for the current demands upon him.

The sum of one crore and three lacks and eighty-four thousand four hundred and twenty rupees Sicca Lucknow, due to the English Company from the Nabob Vizier on the balance of the year eleven hundred and ninety Fussully, and for the subsidy of their troops and other demands, for

for the present year eleven hundred and ninety-one Fussully, according to the statement adjusted by Mr. Bristow—The said sum we have made ourselves answerable for, deducting such sums as may have been collected on account, by Mr. Bristow: and whatever shall appear to be due, after deducting such collections as may have been already made, we engage to pay in such manner as shall be settled by Major Palmer for the present year, to commence from the first of Rubbee ul Owel, and end at Bhaudoon; and the remainder in the course of the fussullee year eleven hundred and ninety-two.

A true Copy of the Translation.

E. HAY,  
Secretary.

The Governor General lays before the Board copies of a correspondence which passed between Mr. Wombwell and Mr. Bristow, received from the former; by which it appears that Mr. Bristow had hesitated to obey the orders which directed his return to the Presidency, grounded on some doubts which the Governor General is not sure that he sufficiently comprehends, but which are expressed to be primarily founded on the terms of the orders which he has received, and which he expresses to be "loose and indefinite." The Governor General, to prevent further delays, or elusion of the Board's orders, moves, That Mr. Bristow be peremptorily commanded to leave Lucknow, and repair to the Presidency on the immediate receipt of these commands; directing, in like manner, the assistants of his office to leave Lucknow, and to repair to Calcutta immediately; and that, in conformity with his former orders, he do deliver over all the papers, accounts, and cash of his office, to Mr. Wombwell.

Agreed.

(Signed)

EDWARD WHEELER.

To John Wombwell, Esquire, &c.

Sir,

I have been honoured by the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, informing me, "that you had received from the Vizier the security offered by his Excellency for the discharge of the balance due from him to the Company, and for procuring payments of the subsidy and other current expences." The orders of the Honourable the Governor General and Council, as they have been transmitted to me on this subject, through their secretary, direct, that I shall leave Lucknow, upon the receipt of a notification from you, that his Highness has put into your hands, for the purposes hereinabove mentioned, *The security of bankers of known credit and responsibility*; and in a letter, addressed by the Honourable the Governor General to the Vizier, the necessity of taking the most speedy means to obtain and deliver *such* security is pointed out to his Highness, and he is requested *then, and not till then*, to give me leave in form to withdraw. I enclose you copies of the papers here alluded to, that the possibility of any error or delay, arising from a misconstruction of our respective orders, may be avoided; and as the one I have received is so loose and indefinite in the terms of it, I am to request that you will either favour me with a notification in such specific language as will alone justify me in accepting it for any notification at all, and consequently as any authority to withdraw from Lucknow, or that you will inform me decidedly that I am not to expect it from you. Arguing as well from the nature of any such agreement, as from the terms of that which has on this occasion taken place between the Vizier and the Honourable the Governor General and Council, it would be absurd to suppose an intention in the latter to accept, without previous inquiry into its sufficiency, of any security his Excellency may be pleased to offer them for the performance of his part of the compact. As the Honourable Board have given me no instructions on this head, I conclude they have thought proper to constitute you the judge of, and accountable to them for the validity of the security now to be given by the Nabob. I am therefore further to request you will inform me whether this latter conjecture is warranted, and whether you consider yourself as so responsible to them; and if not, that you will furnish me with attested copies of the engagements entered into by the respective bankers.

The conjecture being of the last importance to the interests of the Honourable Company, engages me to be thus particular. I am persuaded that you will think of it as I do, and will, as I have done, wave all forms, and give me every possible explanation in your power.

Lucknow,  
Jan. 28th, 1784.

I have the honour, &c.  
(Signed)

JOHN BRISTOW.

VOL. IV.

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COPY

**COPY** of a Letter from the Secretary of the Honourable the Governor General and Council to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, dated 31st December 1783.

I transmit to you enclosed, for your information, by order of the Honourable the Governor General and Council, a translation and copy of letters written by the Governor General to his Excellency the Vizier. You and your assistants will withdraw from Lucknow, when Mr. Wombwell informs you that he has obtained the securities specified in the former.

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**TRANSLATION** of a letter from the Honourable the Governor General to the Nabob Vizier.

After a very full and mature consideration of the state of your highness's country and government, it has been resolved by myself, and the gentlemen of the council, to accept of the offer some time since made by your highness, of the security of bankers of known credit and responsibility for the discharge of the balance due from you to the company, on the condition of the recall of Messrs. Bristow and Cowper, and withdrawing the Company's resident from your court. You will of course see the necessity of taking the most speedy means to obtain such security, and to deliver the same to Mr. Wombwell, who has orders to receive charge of all the papers in Mr. Bristow's office, and to remain for the purpose of keeping the accounts of payments made from your Circar to the Company; and it is my request that your highness will then, and not till then, give to Mr. Bristow leave in form to withdraw. He will accordingly depart, and return to Calcutta, and signify your order to Mr. Cowper, and the other assistants of his office, to the same effect, that they may also return to Calcutta.

A true Copy.

(Signed) E. HAY, Secretary.

A true Copy.

(Signed) J. Hill,  
Assist to the Resident.

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To John Bristow, Esquire, &c.

Sir,

I have the honour of your letter of the 28th January, and a copy of a letter from the Secretary to you.

I have transmitted to the honourable the Governor General and council a copy of the Security offered by the Vizier for the discharge of the balance due from his excellency to the Company, and for the growing payments of the subsidy, and other current demands. They are the proper judges. I do not in any manner consider myself responsible.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) JOHN WOMBWELL.

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Mr. Stables.—Provided that the Governor General is satisfied that the security given by the Nabob Vizier is sufficient, I assent to Mr. Bristow's immediate recall from Lucknow, as expressed in the Governor General's minute 7th February.

Governor General.—I am satisfied with the security.

(Signed) W. H.

The

The following Letter, and its Enclosures, were received from Mr. Bristow on the 7th Instant, and circulated for the perusal of the members of the Board.

Gentlemen,

Sufficient rain has fallen in these provinces, as I have every reason to hope will obviate in a great measure the alarming consequences of a famine; yet precautions against any distress your troops may suffer is necessary; and I have the honour to enclose for your information an extract of a letter from Colonel Ironside to me on this subject.

If it is your pleasure that any stock of grain be laid in, the near approach of the rubby harvest will render the present period the most convenient, when it may be furnished with the least expence and difficulty.

I have the honour, &c.

Lucknow.

28th Jan'y 1784.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,  
Resident at the Vizier's court.

EXTRACT of a Letter from Colonel Gilbert Ironside to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court: dated 24th Jan. 1784.

So unpromising is the aspect of the country in point of fertility, that I must beg leave to offer to your immediate consideration the most effectual means for the establishment of a magazine of grain, sufficient for the consumption of the troops at that station for the period of the dry season. The presence of so large a body of Marattas as you acquaint me may be expected, will undoubtedly enhance the present scarcity, if means be not employed to guard against it; and I regard the establishing a magazine, as was done in the time of the famine in Bengal, to be indispensable. The grain is to be served out at fixed rates to each officer and man, for themselves and necessary servants, lest, if Almas really harbour any ill intentions, he should, by monopolizing the grain in the Douab, render the continuance of the brigade at Cawnpore utterly impracticable.

A true Extract.

J. NEAVE,  
Asst to the Res.

The following Letter, and its Enclosures, were received from Mr. Bristow on the 8th Instant, and circulated.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

The frequent robberies and murders perpetrated in his excellency the Vizier's dominions have too often been the subject of my representations to your honourable Board. From the total want of police, hardly a day elapses but I am informed of some tragical event, whereof the bare recital is shocking to humanity. About two months since an attempt was made to assassinate Raja Ticket Roy, the acting minister's confidential agent, but he happily escaped unhurt: Nabob Bahadre, his highness's brother, has not been so fortunate, as will appear from translations of two of his letters to me, No 1, which I have the honour to enclose for your information. Although my feelings are sensibly hurt, and my compassion strongly excited, by the disgraceful and miserable state of poverty to which his excellency's brothers are reduced; yet, situated as I am, it is not in my power to interfere with effect. My efforts on a former occasion failed of success, and my interposition now would only excite the resentment of the minister towards the unhappy sufferers, in consequence of their application to me; from whom alone, however, they hope for relief from their present distress, which, their near connection with the Vizier considered, is both shameful and unprecedented.

That no regular courts of justice have been established in this country, is particularly pointed at in my instructions, as "the most disreputable defect in his highness's government;" yet the minister seems determined on abolishing even the shadow of so necessary an institution. The office

office of Sudder ul Huck, as held by Molovy Moubine, was ever nugatory, but now it is sunk in the lowest contempt. The original establishment, inadequate as it was, is mouldering away, and the officers now attached to it are literally starving, as no part of their allowances has been paid for above six months past: he himself has proposed to resign his appointment, being every way precluded from a possibility of exercising the duties of it.

I have the honour to forward, for your further information, the enclosure, No 3.—It contains a relation of the hardships endured by the ladies of the late Vizier's zenana.

I have the honour, &c.

Lucknow,  
23th Janry 1784.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,  
Resident at the Vizier's court.

TRANSLATION of a letter from Nabob Behadre, his highness the Vizier's brother, to Mr. Bristow; dated 28th December 1783.

Your own servant carried you the account of what he himself was an eye witness to after the affairs of last night. These are the particulars:—About midnight my aunt received twelve stabs from a man, of which she died: I also received six successive stabs, which alarmed the people of the house, who set up a shouting, whereupon the assassin ran off. Besides being without food, or the means of providing any, this misfortune has befallen me. I am desirous of sending the coffin to your door. It is your duty, both for the sake of God and of Christ, to execute justice, and to enquire what harm I have done to the murderer, sufficient to deserve assassination, or even injury.—You now stand in the place of his excellency the Vizier: I request you will do me justice. What can I say more?

P. S. I am also desirous to shew you my wounds.

From the same.

7th January 1784.

You have been duly informed of all the circumstances relative both to the murder of the innocent, and my being wounded, as well by my former letter, as by the messenger whom you sent to enquire into the state of my health; and I have every reason to hope, from your known kindness, that you will not be deficient in seeking out the assassin. I am at this moment overwhelmed in misfortune; whilst the blood is flowing from my wounds, neither I, nor my children, nor my servants, have wherewithal to procure sustenance, nor have I it in my power either to purchase remedy, or to reward the physician; 'tis for the sake of God alone that he attends me. Thus loaded with calamity upon calamity, I am unable to support life; for I find no relief from my affliction, either day or night. Do you (now standing in the place of my father) grant me fresh life by speedy acts of benevolence.

For these two last years his excellency established a pension for me of twenty thousand rupees, but I never received the full amount of it, either last year or the year before; should it however be paid me, though inadequate to my desires. I shall still be enabled to support myself. From the beginning of this year to the present time I have not received a farthing, nor do I expect any; though, if you afford protection to the oppressed, all my wishes will be accomplished. I was desirous of waiting on you with my family, that you might be an eye witness to their condition; but I was advised not to stir out, on account of my wounds. What more can I say?

A true translation.

(Signed) ROBT HOLT,  
Assist. to the Resident.

TRANS-

TRANSLATION of a Letter from the Nabob Vizier's Brothers, Myrza Hyder Ally, Myrza Imayut Ally, and Myrza Syfe Ally, to Mr. Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court: Received 9th March 1783.

The manly and generous conduct of the English gentlemen towards all nations is as clear as the Sun at noon day; so well known is the favour shewn by the Company, the Governor, and you, to our late father, and our whole house, that it is unnecessary to write the particulars.—We before this communicated to you, through Myrza Ishmael Beg, some general circumstances concerning our distress, to which you returned for answer, that you would cause 2,000 rupees a month to be paid to each of us, and ask us to visit you. It is some time since we received this message, and we go on without any means of subsistence, and in the utmost misery, entirely relying upon the hopes of your friendship. Apparently, from the multiplicity of business on your hands, you have forgot your promise. Our situation is not fit to be represented; for two years we have not received a hubba on account of our tuncaw, though the ministers have annually charged a lack of rupees, and never paid us any thing.—After all, we are the sons of Surjah ul Dowla.—It is surprising, having such a friend as you, our situation is arrived at that pass, that we should be in distress for dry bread and cloaths. Whereas, as you have done many generous acts, be pleased so to shew us your favour, that by some means we may receive our allowances from the Company's treasury, and not be obliged to depend upon and solicit others for it. We hope you will grant us a favourable answer through Mr. Cowper.

From Myrza Hyder Ally, Myrza Emayut Ally, and Myrza Syfe Ally, to Mr. Cowper:

Received 10th March, 1783.

We have, through your favour, received Mr. Bristow's answer; it has been thousands of a thousand causes of satisfaction to us.—May the everlasting God, in the purity of his glory, preserve health to you, who have shewn us all this favour.—Our pens fail in expressing our gratitude.—We are now perfectly satisfied that from your favour we shall receive our allowances, month by month: for instance, the Gomostah of Rajah Ticket Roy sent us an order on the house of Lalla Buchagie for the sums of 2,000 rupees each.—We hope you will apply in our names to the Resident, that our pensions may be granted us from the Company's treasury, in the same manner as that of our brother Saadut Ally: we also represented this matter to the Resident.—Whereas the person who brought your letter to us was a Burgally, and Hircarras from the presence watch us; likewise we are under great fear from the Nabob Vizier, and the people in his court, lest they should be informed of our having any dependance on the English gentlemen, whereby an injury might be done us: we therefore request, that if you have an Indostan Moonshy, as undoubtedly will be the case, he may be employed in our negotiations. Hindostannies passing will not be regarded, and nobody will be informed thereby.—As you have favoured us with your friendship, you will shew it by not disclosing our secret, until we have an interview with the Resident, and oblige us by delivering the enclosed letter to him.

True Copies.

(Signed)

J. N E A V E,

Affist to the Resident.

TRANSLATION of a Paper of Intelligence from Fyzabad.

The ladies, their attendants, and servants were still as clamorous as last night. Latafut the Droga went to them, and remonstrated with them on the impropriety of their conduct, at the same time assuring them, that in a few days all their allowances would be paid; and should that not be the case, he would advance them ten days subsistence, upon condition that they returned to their habitations: none of them however consented to his proposals, but were still intent upon making their escape through the Bazar; and in consequence formed themselves in

the following order:—The children in the front, behind them the ladies of the seraglio, and behind them again their attendants; but their intentions were frustrated by the opposition which they met with from Latafut's sepoy.

The next day Latafut went twice to the women, and used his endeavours to make them return into the Zanana, promising to advance them 10,000 rupees, which, upon the money being paid down, they agreed to comply with; but night coming on, nothing transpired.

On the day following their clamours were more violent than usual.—Latafut went to confer with them on the business of yesterday, offering the same terms; depending on the fidelity of his promises, they consented to return to their apartments, which they accordingly did, except two or three of the ladies, and most of their attendants.—Latafut then went to Hoshmurid Ally Cawn to consult with him about what means they should take; they came to a resolution of driving them in by force, and gave orders to their sepoy to beat any one of the women who should attempt to move forward.—The sepoy accordingly assembled, and each one being provided with a bludgeon, they drove them by dint of beating into the Zennana. The women seeing the treasurer of Latafut, proceeded to throw stones and bricks at the sepoy, and again attempted to get out; but finding that impossible from the gates being shut, they kept a continual discharge till about 12 o'clock, when, finding their situation desperate, they retired into the Rung Mahal, and forced their way from thence into the palace, and dispersed themselves about the house and gardens: after this they were desirous of getting into the Begum's apartments, but she being apprized of their intentions, ordered the doors to be shut. In the mean time Latafut and Coshmund Ally Khan posted centries to secure the gates of the Lesser Mahal. During the whole of this conflict, the ladies and women remained exposed to the view of the sepoy. The Begum then sent for Latafut and Hoshmund Ally Khan, whom she severely reprimanded, and insisted upon knowing the cause of this infamous behaviour. They pleaded in their defence, the impossibility of helping it, as the treatment the women had met with had only been conformably to his Excellency the Vizier's orders. The Begum alledged, that even admitting that the Nabob had given these orders, they were by no means authorized in this manner to disgrace the family of Sujah Dowlah; and should they not receive their allowances for a day or two, it could be of no great moment: what had passed was now at an end, but that the Vizier should certainly be acquainted with the whole of the affair, and that whatever he directed she should implicitly comply with. The Begum then sent for two of the children who were wounded in the affray of last night, and, after endeavouring to sooth them, she sent again for Latafut and Hoshmund Ally Khan, and in the presence of the children again expressed her disapprobation of their conduct, and the improbability of Asoph ul Dowlah's suffering the ladies and children of Sujah Dowlah to be disgraced, by being exposed to the view of the rabble: upon which Latafut produced the letter from the Nabob, representing that he was amenable only to the order of his Excellency, and that whatever he ordered it was his duty to obey; and that had the ladies thought proper to have retired quietly into their apartments, he would not have used the means he had taken to compel them.—The Begum again observed, that what had passed was now over;—she then gave the children 4,00 rupees, and dismissed them, and sent word by Sumrud and the other eunuchs, that if the ladies would peaceably retire to their apartments, Latafut would supply them with 3 or 4,000 rupees for their present expences, and recommended to them not to incur any further disgrace; and that if they did not think proper to act agreeable to her directions, they would do wrong. The ladies followed her advice, and about 10 at night went back into the Zennana.—The next morning the Begum waited upon the mother of Sujah Dowlah and related to her all the circumstances of the disturbance. The mother of Sujah Dowlah returned for answer, that after there being no account kept of crores of revenue, she was not surprized that the family of Sujah Dowlah, in their endeavours to procure subsistence, should be obliged to expose themselves to the meanest of people. After bewailing their misfortunes, and shedding many tears, the Begum took her leave and returned home.

A true translation.

(Signed)

ROBERT HOLT,

Assist. to the Reside.

TRANSLATION of a Paper of Intelligence from Lucknow.

The following is a translation of a paper of intelligence from Lucknow, dated the 10th of the month of the year 1212, in which it is stated that the ladies and children of the family of Sujah Dowlah, who were confined in the Zennana, were on the 10th of the month of the year 1212, driven into the Rung Mahal, and then into the palace, and dispersed themselves about the house and gardens. The paper also states that the ladies and children were exposed to the view of the sepoy, and that the Begum, who was informed of this, sent for Latafut and Hoshmund Ally Khan, and reprimanded them for their conduct. The paper further states that the Begum then sent for two of the children who were wounded in the affray of last night, and after endeavouring to sooth them, she sent again for Latafut and Hoshmund Ally Khan, and in the presence of the children again expressed her disapprobation of their conduct. The paper also states that the Begum then gave the children 4,000 rupees, and dismissed them, and sent word by Sumrud and the other eunuchs, that if the ladies would peaceably retire to their apartments, Latafut would supply them with 3 or 4,000 rupees for their present expences, and recommended to them not to incur any further disgrace; and that if they did not think proper to act agreeable to her directions, they would do wrong. The paper concludes by stating that the ladies followed her advice, and about 10 at night went back into the Zennana.

The following letter, and its enclosures, were received from Mr. Wombwell on the 9th instant.

To Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary,

Sir,

I beg you will do me the favour to present to the Honourable the Governor General and Council the enclosed copy of a correspondence between Mr. Bristow and me.

In my letter of 28th January, I acquaint Mr. Bristow that I have received from the Vizier the security offered by his Excellency; that I have transmitted a copy of it to the Board; that the Governor General and Council are the proper judges; and that I consider myself to be without responsibility.

In my letter of the 29th January, I venture to mention to Mr. Bristow my opinion of the credit of the bankers; and I have informed him of their names, that, should his sentiments differ from mine, he might act accordingly.

Lucknow,

I have the honour, &c.

29th January 1784.

(Signed)

JOHN WOMBWELL.

To John Bristow, Esquire, &c.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you, that I have received from the Vizier the security offered by his Excellency for the discharge of the balance due from him to the Company, and for the growing payments of the subsidy, and current expences.

I am, &c.

27th Jan'y

(Signed)

JOHN WOMBWELL,

1783.

Acct.

To John Wombwell, Esquire, &c.

Sir,

I have been honoured by the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, informing me, that you had received from the Vizier the security offered by his Excellency for the discharge of the Balance due from him to the Company, and for procuring payments of the subsidy, and other current expences. The orders of the Honourable the Governor General and Council, as they have been transmitted to me on this subject through their secretary, direct that I shall leave Lucknow upon the receipt of a notification from you, that his Highness has put into your hands, for the purposes above-mentioned, the security of bankers of known credit and responsibility; and in a letter addressed by the Honourable Governor General to the Vizier, the necessity of taking the most speedy means to obtain and deliver such security is pointed out to his Highness, and he is requested *then, and not till then*, to give me leave in form to withdraw. I enclose you copies of the papers here alluded to, that the possibility of any error or delay, arising from a misconstruction of our respective orders, may be avoided; and as the one I have received is so loose and indefinite in the terms of it, I am to request that you will either favour me with a notification in such specific language as will alone justify me in accepting it for any notification at all, and consequently as any authority to withdraw from Lucknow; or that you will inform me decidedly that I am not to expect it from you. Arguing, as well from the nature of any such agreement, as from the terms of that which has on this occasion taken place between the Vizier and the Honourable the Governor General and Council, it would be absurd to suppose an intention in the latter, to accept, without previous enquiry into its sufficiency, of

of any security his Excellency may be pleased to offer them for the performance of his part of the compact. As the Honourable Board have given me no instructions on this head, I conclude that they have thought proper to constitute you to be judge of, and accountable to them for the validity of the security now to be given by the Nabob. I am therefore further to request you will inform me, whether this latter conjecture is warranted, and whether you consider yourself as so responsible to them; and if not, that you will furnish me with attested copies of the engagements entered into with the respective bankers.

The Conjunction being of the last importance to the interests of the Honourable Company, engages me to be thus particular. I am persuaded, Sir, you will think of it as I do, and will, as I have done, waive all forms, and give me every possible explanation in your power.

I have the honour, &c.

Lucknow,  
28th January.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,

Resident.

To John Bristow, Esquire, Resident, &c.

Sir,

I have the honour of your letter of 28th January, and the copy of a letter from the secretary to you. I have transmitted to the Honourable the Governor General and Council a copy of the security offered by the Vizier for the discharge of the balance due from his Excellency to the Company, and for the growing payments of the subsidy, and other current expenses. They are the proper judges; I do not in any manner consider myself responsible.

I have the honour, &c.

28th Jan'y  
1784.

(Signed) JOHN WOMBWELL.

To John Wombwell, &c.

Sir,

Your letter of this morning leaves me in the same state of uncertainty as before, with respect to the nature of the security you have received from the Vizier for the discharge of the balance due from his Highness to the Company, and for the growing payments of the subsidy, and other current expenses. The orders of the Honourable Governor General and Council, conveyed to me through their secretary, are (as I have shewn by the enclosures in my former letter to you) express, to wait a *specific notification* from you, that the security of bankers of known credit and responsibility has, for the purposes herein above mentioned, been delivered to you by the Vizier. You must consequently be sensible I cannot accept any notification in less explicit terms, as an authority either for my departure, or the withdrawing the Residency. I must therefore once again ask you, whether you mean, by what you have now said, to give such *specific notification*. I entreat you, Sir, to simplify your answer, that I may not, by my presence, furnish to the ministers of this court, a plea for the violation of the agreement which has taken place between his Highness the Nabob, and the Honourable Governor General and Council.

I have the honour, &c.

Lucknow, Wednesday  
28th Jan. 1784.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,

Resident.

To

To John Bristow, Esquire, &c.

Sir,

I received your letter at twelve o'clock last night. I have had the honour of acquainting you, that I have received from the Vizier the Security offered by his Excellency, and that I had transmitted a copy of it to the Honourable the Governor General and Council.

I have complied, as far as it has been in my power, with the direction of the secretary.

I am, &c.

28th Jan. 1784.

(Signed)

J. WOMBWELL,

The following letter having been received from Mr. Bristow, the board were pleased to resolve, that Captain Norman Macleod should continue in his command at Lucknow, until the arrival of the Honourable the Governor General at that place.

Gentlemen,

The Resident's guard, under Captain Norman Macleod, having, from the attention and ability of that officer, been rendered a well-disciplined and respectable corps, and your Honourable Board being silent concerning it in your directions for withdrawing the Residency, and as the leaving these troops without any officer to command them would be a measure unadvisable and irregular, I shall request Captain Macleod to continue in the command until your pleasure is known.

I have the honour, &c.

Lucknow,  
30th Jan'y 1784.

(Signed)

JOHN BRISTOW,

Resident.

The Neptune Packet being ready to take her departure for Bufforah, a general letter to the Honourable Court of Directors was dispatched on the 9th instant, in duplicate to the Resident, to be transmitted over land.

On the same day, a general letter was dispatched to the Honourable the Court of Directors, to go by the ship Lord Macartney.

The following letter, and its enclosures, were received from Mr. Wombwell on the 10th instant.

To Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary.

Sir,

I take the liberty of transmitting the copy of a letter which I have received from Mr. Bristow, together with the enclosures contained in it, which I request you will lay before the Honourable Board.

I have the honour, &c.

Lucknow,  
31st Jan'y 1784.

(Signed)

JOHN WOMBWELL,

Accountant.

To John Wombwell, Esquire, &c.

Sir,

I have received your letter of yesterday's date, asserting that Lalla Faquir Chund and Lalla Butchrauje, the securities offered by his Highness, are bankers of known credit and responsibility.

I now have the honour to refer you to the enclosure, No. 1, for an estimate of the Company's claims upon the Vizier, brought up to the 31st of January, 1784. For your information I transmit you No. 2, a translation of my bond to certain bankers for a loan of Lucknow Sicca Rupees, seventeen lacks and forty thousand, borrowed on the conditions more fully explained in my address to the Board of the 8th of June, 1783. Three lacks, seventy-eight thousand, nine hundred and forty-four rupees, eight annas, and six pice have been in part paid, which leaves a sum of thirteen lacks, sixty-one thousand and fifty-five rupees, seven annas, and six pice due on that account, exclusive of interest, for which three lacks are specified in the estimate, and forms part of the claims on the Vizier.

The Paper, No. 3, is an estimate of the current demands on the treasury. I have addressed the Vizier's minister, Hyder Beg Khan, fully on the subject of his accounts, particularly requesting he would supply the paymaster with the sum of Sonaut Rupees one lack, for the payment of Colonel Charles Morgan's detachment, without delay, as the Colonel will very shortly arrive at Etaya, the place where he has desired me to remit the money. In making this payment, I obey the orders of the Governor General and Council.

I have the honour, &c.

Lucknow,  
30th Jan. 1784.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,  
Resident.

ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE of Claims upon his Excellency the Nabob Vizier, on Account of the Honourable Company, from the 1st of February, to the end of the Fuffullee Year 1191.

Balance due by his Excellency, the 31st January, 84	—	—	—	—	51,02,165 13 11
Army Subsidy.					
One brigade, according to the old establishment, from 1st of February to 31 August 1784, 7 months, at 2,60,000 rupees per month	—	—	18,20,000	0 0	
One regiment stationed at Lucknow, according to the new establishment, at 25,000 rupees per month	—	—	1,75,000	0 0	
Five regiments under Colonel Sir John Cumming, according to the new establishment, at Rs 25,000 per regiment per month,	—	—	8,75,000		
One company of artillery, under Colonel Cumming, at Rs 20,000 per month,	—	—	1,40,000		
			10,15,000	0 0	
Mirza Saudit Ally's stipend	—	—	—	30,10,000	0 0
				3,00,000	0 0
Abdul Rhamans Cawn's corps of cavalry	—	—	—	3,00,000	0 0
Rohilla stipends, from 1st of Maug to the end of Bhaudoon 1191	—	—	—	41,052	0 0
Army Donation	—	—	—	10,50,000	0 0
Mr. Frazer	—	—	—	2,00,000	0 0
Estimate of interest on the money borrowed from Gopaul Dofs Sald	—	—	—	3,00,000	0 0
					52,01,052 0 0
Fyzd 16 Sun Sicca Rupees	—	—	—	—	1,06,03,217 13 11

Errors excepted.

(Signed)

JOHN BRISTOW,  
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

TRANSLATION of a Bond given by Mr. Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, to Gopaul Dofs, dated 8th June 1783, or the 6th of Rajjub 1197 Hijura, or 3d of Jeit 1190 Fuffullee.

Borrowed from the under-mentioned persons, on account of the Honourable Company, through Lalla Munfuram, the Agent of Lalla Gopaul Dofs, Banker, the sum of seventeen lacks and forty thousand rupees, bearing interest at one per cent. per month. I engage that it shall be paid, after providing for the Company's necessary disbursements, from the receipts of the assignments granted on the country in their favour by his Highness the Nabob Vizier.

PART I-

## PARTICULARS of the Loan.

From Lalla Munfuram, agent to the house of Gopaul Dofs	—	14,00,000	0	0
From Kissen Chund	—	1,00,000	0	0
Premium of exchange, 16 per cent. upon 15 lacks	—	2,40,000	0	0
Lucknow Sa rupees	—	17,40,000	0	0

A true Copy.  
(Signed) J. NEAVE,  
Assistant to the Resident.

## ESTIMATE of Current Demands on the Lucknow Treasury, to the 31 January 1784.

The Army.				
Col <sup>l</sup> Sir John Cummings's detachment.				
Mr. Melville's estimate to pay the Europeans to the 31 January 1784, and the sepoy to the 31 December 1783	—	5,44,000	0	0
Estimate of the pay, &c. of the sepoy for January 1784.	—	1,02,500	0	0
		6,46,500	0	0
Deduct,				
Mr. Melville's draft to Col <sup>l</sup> Knudson, for which a tuncaw on Soorat Sing, the Aumil of Rohilcund, has been granted	1,30,000	0	0	
Remitted Mr. Melville	66,600	0	0	
D <sup>o</sup> , in three bills of exchange	81,994	7	6	
D <sup>o</sup> , a tuncaw the Sezawal of Furuckabad	52,567	11	3	
		3,31,162	2	9
		3,13,337	13	3
The 3d Brigade.				
Mr. Collins's estimate to pay the Europeans to the 31st January 1784, and the sepoy to the 31st December 1783	—	2,74,382	0	0
Estimate of the pay, &c. of the sepoy for Janry. 84	—	78,000	0	0
		3,52,382	0	0
Major Cooke's regt, Decr and Janry.	—	40,000	0	0
Major Grant's regiment, January	—	20,000	0	0
		60,000	0	0
The above two regiments are not included in either of the paymaster's estimates.				
Colonel Charles Morgan	—	1,11,000	0	0
Major Duncan's draft	—	24,000	0	0
		8,62,719	13	3
		85,494	18	0
		7,77,225	1	3
Mr. Scott.				
The Board's order of 17 July 83 in his favour	—	2,50,000	0	0
D <sup>o</sup> -- 1 December	—	1,25,000	0	0
		3,75,000	0	0
Paid from the treasury	—	75,000	0	0
D <sup>o</sup> , by an order on the Aumil of Goruckpore.	—	30,000	0	0
		1,05,000	0	0
		2,70,000	0	0
Deduct batta 5-9-3 per cent.	—	14,265	3	6
		2,55,734	12	6
Carried over Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca rupees	—	10,32,959	13	9
		The		

Brought forward		1023,959 13 9
The Resident's office.		
Mr. Wombwell, accountant, December and January	—	5,200 0 0
Mr. Cowper, November, December, and January	—	1,200 0 0
Mr. Gregory, January	—	400 0 0
Mr. Holt, December and January	—	600 0 0
Mr. Saml Middleton, December and January	—	600 0 0
Mr. Neave, January	—	300 0 0
		8,300 0 0
Add batta 5 per cent.		415 0 0
		8,715 0 0
Balance of Abdul Khaman Cawn's corps of cavalry	—	10,41,674 13 9
		2,10,200 0 0
Fyzd 16 Sun Sicca rupees	—	12,51,874 13 9

Errors excepted.

(Signed)

JOHN BRISTOW,

Resident at the

Vizier's Court.

The following letter, and its enclosures, were received from Mr. Bristow, on the 13th instant, and circulated to the members of the Board for their perusal.

Gentlemen,

Mr. Wombwell not having notified to me the security offered by his Highness in the form prescribed by your Honourable Board, a correspondence ensued, a copy of which I have the honour to enclose (No 1.) and it will appear at the conclusion of it, that Mr. Wombwell declared Lalla Bucherage and Faquin Chund to be men of known credit and responsibility.

In a measure of such great importance to the Honourable Company's interests as the realization of a fund of above a crore of rupees, I deem it an indispensable duty in me to give my opinion; an opinion not originating from the occasion, but upon record, as the transactions which gave rise to it occurred so long ago as the 30th of July 1783. I represented to your Honourable Board that I had actually saved the house of Casmigry Mull and Butchagree, by a timely aid, from bankruptcy. They engaged for a proportion of rupees 650,000, on account of the last year's loan; with the utmost exertion of their credit, they fulfilled their engagements, and now they have contracted for above seven times the sum, with less prospect of being reimbursed by government, and no change of circumstances in their private affairs to encrease their credit or responsibility. This is one of the houses in Lucknow which has of late been most irregular in its payments.

Fraquir Chund is the minister's private banker; but as I have personally had few official transactions with him, I cannot speak so decidedly from my own experience of the credit of his house. I may, however, safely venture to assert, from all the enquiries I have made concerning him, that he is by no means equal to the responsibility he has undertaken: Indeed these men, or any other two bankers, being even the ostensible agents in a transaction of such magnitude and importance, is an idea ridiculed by the majority of the inhabitants of Lucknow.

In conclusion, gentlemen, with every submission to your judgment, I beg leave to give my opinion, that the security offered by his Highness is fictitious, and in the event will appear no more than the personal security of Hyder Beg Cawn; that he will be able to fulfil the engagements, though invested with despotic power over so extensive a country, is a great doubt with me: I am convinced he cannot do it, and at the same time furnish the necessary funds for the household and

and other current demands of his Highness's government; and I am confirmed in this opinion from the present backwardness of the collections.—I here is, however, no saying what sum may be raised in a short period by a violent exertion of power, and that Hyder Beg will use such means is not improbable, when I consider his character, and the general tenor of his conduct: His purpose may be served for the time being, but the effects will appear in a farther decline of the country, already impoverished to so great a degree, as to have fallen above a third in its annual revenues during the last seven years.

I have circulated letters (translations of which I have the honour to enclose, No 2.) to all the Aumils, and I shall proceed to the presidency as soon as his Highness grants my leave of departure.

Lucknow,  
2d February 1784.

I am, with the highest respect,  
(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,  
Rest at the Vizier's Court.

COPY of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Mr. Wombwell, dated 29th January, 1784,

Your letter of this morning, informing me that you have complied, as "far as it has been in your power, with the directions of the Secretary"—I take the liberty to request you to oblige me with a copy of that direction, since, if you are not authorized, or rather if you are not enjoined by it, to give me a more precise and specific notification than any you have yet favoured me with, it follows that the orders we have respectively received from our superiors, and through the same channel, are in perfect contradiction to each other.

Mr. Wombwell, in Reply; dated 29th January 1784.

In reply to your letter of this date, I enclose the copies of the Secretary's letter to me, and of my address to the Board.

Though I have it not in command from the Board, I do, to prevent any further correspondence on this subject, inform you, that the bankers are Lalla Butcherange and Lalla Fakeer Chund, men of known credit and responsibility.

TRANSLATION of a Circular Letter from Mr. Bristow to the Aumils of his Highness the Vizier's Government.

Agreeably to the orders of the Honourable Governor General and Council, I withhold from any farther collections on account of the Honourable Company's Assignments, and you will make your future payments in conformity to the Vizier's directions. I write this for your information.

TRANSLATION of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated 2d February, 1784.

You will herewith receive a copy of the letter I have this day written to the Aumils, the contents of which you will understand.

True Translations.  
(Signed) J. NEAVE,  
Assistant to the Rest at the Vizier's Court.

The following Minutes, and their Enclosures, were delivered by the Governor General on the 14th instant, and taken to the other members of the Board, by the Secretary, in circulation.

Fort William, February 1784.

To Mr. Wombwell, Lucknow.

Sir,

The Governor General intending to visit the dominions of the Nabob Vizier, we therefore direct you to obey all such orders and instructions as he may from this time think proper to issue to you in his own name, and in all respects to consider his single authority as of the same force, until this order shall be revoked, as that of the Governor General and Council collectively.

We are,

Sir,

Your most obedient

Humble servants.

The same order to be written to Mr. Willis, at Furruckabad; and to Mr. Francis Fowke, at Benares.

A true copy.

E. HAY,

Secy.

Fort William, February 1784.

To Colonel Gilbert Ironside, commanding the Troops at Cawnpore.

Sir,

The Governor General intending to visit the dominions of the Nabob Vizier, we therefore direct you to obey all such orders and instructions as he may from this time think proper to issue to you, and to the troops under your command, in his own name, and in all respects to consider his single authority as of the same force, until this order shall be revoked, as that of the Governor General and Council collectively.

We are,

Sir,

Your most obedient

humble Servants.

The same order to be written to Colonel Sir John Cummings, commanding the detachment in Rohilcund; and to Lieutenant Colonel Ahmuty, commanding the detachment at Chunar.

A true Copy.

E. HAY,

Secy.

Mr. Stables and Mr. Wheler deliver the following Minutes:

16th February, 1784.

Mr. Stables.

I have already given my dissent to the Governor General's proceeding to Lucknow, and I see no reason to alter it. With respect to the powers which the Governor General claims, and the orders he desires to be issued to the army, and to all the civil servants beyond the provinces, they are not only, in my opinion, illegal, but such as, if lawful, no Government constituted as this is ought to grant to any individual, however respectable.

For

For these reasons, and for many others that might be enumerated, although I have every respect for the Governor General, I feel myself in duty bound to protest against granting, or affixing the seal of the Company to, the proposed commission.

A true Copy.

E. HAY,  
Secy.

February 16th, 1784.

Mr. Wheler.

The Board having invested the Governor General with a special and separate charge of the Company's affairs and interests in the dominions of the Nabob Asoph ul Dowlah, and having agreed, on the invitation of the Nabob Vizier, and on a tender made by the Governor General, that he shall proceed to Lucknow, for the purpose of assisting the Nabob Vizier in the means of discharging his engagements to the Company, and in the regulation of his government, it is further necessary to furnish him with such powers as may enable him to accomplish those objects.

For this purpose it is requisite he should be armed with such authority as will enable him not only to concert and adjust with the Nabob Vizier the means of discharging his engagements to the Company, of restoring and securing the peace, safety, and order of his government, and of promoting the improvement of his revenue, but also to carry those means into effect, by supporting the Nabob Vizier with the authority of this Government, in as full and ample manner as we can empower him to exercise it by any act of the Parliament of Great Britain now in being, or by any of the orders of the Honourable Court of Directors; for without full powers to carry into immediate execution such measures as the Governor General may hereafter plan and agree upon with the Nabob Asoph ul Dowlah, the purposes of his visiting that Prince's country may be defeated, or the season for action lost, whilst he is waiting for the sanction of the Board.

It seems also absolutely necessary, for the same reasons, to invest the Governor General "with the full power and authority of this Government (as far as we can legally delegate the same) over all the officers, civil and military, stationed or residing within the dominions of the Nabob Asoph ul Dowlah, and the province of Benares;" and when it is remembered that the troops in the Vizier's country are stationed there for the purposes of protecting it, and of aiding and assisting him on all occasions, when he shall apply for them, to reduce his subjects to the due obedience of his authority, and are paid out of the Vizier's treasury, it will not seem that the placing them under the orders of the Governor General, as the means of carrying into effect the regulations for the internal government of his dominions, formed and adjusted with the Nabob Vizier himself, is any very extraordinary delegation of power.

The importance of the arrangements to be made in the government and finances of the Nabob Vizier, and the difficulties that may be expected to be encountered in enforcing them, are such as, I should apprehend, would justify the Board in delegating to the Governor General, upon this occasion, as ample powers as have ever been granted to any of their members upon any former one; and when it is considered that the extensive powers given to Lord Clive by the instructions of the Select Committee of the 21st June, 1765, and those given to Messrs. Cartier, Smith, and Ruffel, by the instructions of the Select Committee of the 13th September, 1768, were in the notice and contemplation of the Parliament at the time the act was passed which constituted this Government upon its present footing, and vested the whole civil and military government of this Presidency in the Governor General and Council, in like manner, to all intents and purposes, as the same had been exercised by the President and Council, or Select Committee, I should conceive this Government possess the right of delegating to the Governor General, upon the present occasion, as full powers as those which were granted to Lord Clive by the Select Committee in June 1765, or to Messrs. Cartier, Smith, and Ruffel, in 1768.

But the powers proposed to be granted to the Governor General by the instructions now before the Board, being limited in their objects, and confined in their operation to the dominions of the Nabob Vizier and the province of Benares, fell far short of those given to Lord Clive, who, in conjunction with General Camac, "was empowered to stipulate such conditions with Sujah ul Dowlah, to form such connections with the country powers, and to pursue such means as he should judge necessary to the Company's interest, the public welfare, and the obtaining a safe, honourable, advantageous, and lasting peace."

I am

I am induced, for these reasons, to give my assent to the proposed draft of the powers and authority to be vested in the Governor General by the Board.

A true Copy.

E. HAY,  
Secy.

Resolved, That the power and authority proposed to be given to the Governor General, be vested in him accordingly.

The Governor General has desired the Board to assemble this day, for the purpose of receiving his final dispatches, having been advised to leave Calcutta for the benefit of a change of air a few days, before he begins his journey to Lucknow, as he has been much incommoded for some days past by a feverish indisposition, of which he still feels the effects; and he proposes, with the permission of the Board, to take his departure for that purpose this evening. He regrets the necessity of his absence from the Board, and most heartily wishes them success; and, for his own, recommends himself to their support.

The Governor General's credentials are now signed, as well as the letters proposed to be written to the civil and military officers stationed beyond the province of Bahar.

Agreed that the following letter be written to Major General Stilbert:

Sir,

The Governor General intending to visit the dominions of the Nabob Vizier, we have thought proper to direct the commanding officers at Cawnpore, Futty Ghur, and Chunar, to obey all such orders and instructions as he may from this time think proper to issue to them, and to the troops under their command, in his own name, and in all respects to consider his single authority of the same force, until this order shall be revoked, as that of the Governor General and Council collectively.

We are, &c.

Fort William,  
17th February, 1784.

Read a letter from Mr. Bristow, dated 4th October.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I had the honour to address you on the 30th of August, soliciting your explicit directions on the subject of Almas Ally Cawn's dismissal; and I shall now endeavour to state the whole of this transaction to you, in the clearest point of view, hoping it will appear that I have done my utmost in a business which forms a principal and important part of my instructions.

I was so circumstanced as to render it utterly impossible to undertake this measure at the time of my arrival, when such very considerable detachments were dispersed throughout the country, and the troops under the command of Col. Sir John Cumming had only reached Allahabad. The inconsiderable number of two regiments only could be brought into the field; and I submit to your judgment, gentlemen, in the event of resistance, whether this force was, in any respect, equal to the service.

I have also to observe, that it would have been a very difficult matter to have selected proper persons for the charge of such extensive districts, especially as it was impossible for me, immediately on entering upon the office, to form a correct judgment of the degree of confidence due to my agents, or the probability of a defection in Almas Ally Cawn's naibs, or his troops. Confident as the minister professed to be on this head, Almas's immense wealth might possibly have secured

secured their fidelity, while, on the other hand, I could with difficulty support the current disbursements. I received charge with a heavy debt, running at an exorbitant interest, and an empty treasury. My plan, then, was to keep Almas in office, until the conclusion of the Fushlee year, when his dismissal might be effected without loss or tumult; but the ministers determined opposition to this, as well as every other plan of reform, has again counteracted and rendered all my efforts vain. Though I directed him, in conformity to your instructions, to remove Almas Ally Cawn, and make the settlement of that Aumil's districts, he has at last avowed his determination to disobey, pleading in excuse, that as his former nominations are superseded, he should leave me to name and appoint the Aumils; he would exhibit them to his Highness, but he would not act from himself.

The undisguised manner in which the minister has expressed his sentiments, furnish me with good reason to suppose, that his object is to increase the confusion in this unhappy country, and, by interrupting the Company's resources, impute all the mischiefs of his own ruinous administration to my interference, and endeavour to induce you to confirm, as a measure of necessity, his unparticipated and despotic dominion over the lives and property of the Vizier's subjects. Whatever may be his motives, I beg leave to mark the contradiction in his conduct, in calling upon me to name aumils, when he has already made the heaviest complaints against me on this head, though I never ventured beyond the strict line of my duty, in offering my opinion, as my instructions enjoin I should, on the propriety or impropriety of his nominations. Sensible of the insidious view with which Hyder Beg has often solicited me, in the most urgent manner, to recommend people for offices, I have most cautiously avoided yielding to his intreaties. The Aumils have all been appointed from his lists; he has settled every account himself. I have confined my interference solely to advising economy in the charges of collection, &c. reduction of the dangerous power of the great Aumils; and in instances that I have disapproved of his nominations, I have still left it in his discretion to appoint persons of his own selection.

The collusion between the minister and Almas Ally Cawn is, I believe, sufficiently proved, from the latter's remaining in office in opposition to my remonstrances, and in contempt of your positive commands, expressed in the Honourable the Governor General's instructions to me. It is evident, from Almas's continuing his accustomed arrangements for the year, in making new levies, and replenishing his stock of military stores (all of which has been done by him) that he is assured of confirmation and permanence. He informed me himself, on his raising a ruffala of the Company's disbanded troopers; and when I asked an explanation from the minister of the authority by which he acted, he first answered, it was a matter of surprise, and afterwards, that I might enquire of Almas, refusing to give me any satisfaction on the subject. I do not charge Almas with any crime in making these levies, as it is an established custom among the Vizier's Aumils to raise and disband troops at their pleasure: but the practice of thus delegating to subjects an uncontroled and exclusive authority over the military is of the most dangerous tendency: I need only revert to the instance of Almas Ally Cawn himself, who but last year withdrew with his whole army, and was enabled to set the Vizier and the Company at defiance, to treat with his Sovereign upon a footing of equality, and exact his own terms, and an agreement guaranteed by your representative's signature before he would deign to return.

Every action of a man in Almas's situation is interesting to the Vizier's government, and I have therefore watched his conduct minutely, when some time since my suspicions of him were awakened. He had spoke to me of his intention to go to Mysan Gunge, a place seventeen coss from Lucknow, and I understood he went and returned; but he set off again on the 6th September, upon which occasion his vakeel publicly declared, at my house, that his master had received news which gave him uneasiness, and caused his proceeding suddenly to Mysan Gunge; for which reasons he could not apprise me as usual, but he proposed staying only two or three days, and then return to Lucknow: I afterwards heard that he had crossed the Ganges to Tolgram, the principal cantonment of his troops, a place fifteen coss from Canogue, on the Agra Road. I thought it my duty to transmit the necessary information to the commanding officers, and called upon the minister for an explanation, though as usual, he declined giving me any satisfaction. I have since understood, that the true cause of Almas Ally Cawn's journey was owing to his having quarreled with the Naib of Etaya, and a suspicion that he had applied to me for protection; to obviate the consequences of which, the minister himself advised his undertaking the journey. It is certain the Naib did send me a message, soliciting my protection, and assistance in procuring him the farm of the Etaya province, independent of Almas. This proposition may, in the event of your determining on Almas's dismissal, be improved to the Vizier's advantage; and it is for this reason, Gentlemen, that I have been so particular in mentioning the circumstances of a transaction which, in other respects, will appear trivial.

For information of Almas Ally Cawn's connection with the chiefs at Delhi, I have the honour to refer you to the enclosed extract of my address to the Governor General, dated 5th November 1782: but I am since informed, from a number of original Letters, which I intercepted, that he had negociated a treaty with Mahajee Sindia, through the Rebel Raja Cheyte Sing, by which it seems that the Fort of Lahore, with a district around it, was to have been ceded to him. From one of the letters, which is the hand writing of Almas's moonshy, but without a cover, which all the other letters have, I should suppose that, after his return to Lucknow, he preserved a correspondence with Cheyte Sing—This letter must have been written by Almas in November last, and the fact is corroborated by Mr. Anderson. In Almas's connection with any of the native powers, prior to his return, he has received the Vizier's pardon; but his continuing it afterwards is certainly criminal, and an indication of the retreat he has prepared for himself, though, at the present juncture, he may have no inducement to go to it. The estimate of the districts under his charge I have the honour to enclose, wherein his allowances are stated at the sum of rupees 20,28,076. 5. 6. and his military establishment at 14,000 infantry and cavalry, with 40 pieces of cannon, entirely independant of the Vizier's controul: So long as he can enjoy these advantages with personal security, I should imagine he can have no adequate prospect of a provision in the service of any foreign Prince, and therefore there will be no temptation for him to quit the Vizier's dominions; but the present footing, upon which he holds his countries, is both distressful and degrading to his Highness's affairs and dignity. In the first place, he assumes an independant style of conduct; his Naibs acknowledge their obedience due to him alone; and, in order to prevent insults to the Vizier's authority, I have forborne applying for orders to him, except in the instances where the supplying of your troops rendered them absolutely necessary. The only plea urged by the minister in favour of Almas, is the punctuality of his payments; which I readily admit, though I give him no merit for it. It would be wonderful indeed, if, with an allowance of rupees 20,28,076. 5. 6. for his civil and military establishments, holding the same districts at a gradual decrease to government, and great profit to himself, he did not punctually pay the small pittance of revenue which remains. If Almas Ally Cawn be thought a useful servant to the Vizier, from the great wealth which he possesses, I can only observe, Gentlemen, the principal part of his property is secured in a way to render it of no benefit to the state; nor will he ever produce it to supply the public emergencies, except he receives a confirmation of his great power. Continuing him on the present footing is only adding to his immense wealth, and impoverishing the country; when, by dividing the extensive districts under his charge among a number of Aumils, the wealth could neither be monopolized nor exported, and such men would not have the means of resisting the Vizier's authority.

I must earnestly entreat you, Gentlemen, to consider my present situation, that all my efforts are rendered nugatory by every species of secret or open counteraction. I am charged with your affairs at a court, where the Nabob, in the words of my instructions, "must ever be in the hands of some person a mere cypher;" unhappily he is still that cypher in the hands of Hyder Beg Cawn. Why my endeavours to diminish the influence of this minister have hitherto failed of success, I have in my former correspondence had the honour to explain to you: I will not therefore, Gentlemen, intrude upon your time, by re entering unnecessarily into a detail; inasmuch, however, as the situation of affairs at this court is becoming every hour more critical, I should fail in my duty, if I did not very earnestly solicit your speediest decision, as well upon the subject of my present address, as on those which have preceded it. Permit me also, Gentlemen, with the utmost deference, again to submit to you, that it is only by the interposition of your authority that the tyranny exercised by Hyder Beg Cawn over his Sovereign can now be restrained, or those multiplied abuses be corrected, which have already involved every department of the Vizier's government in confusion and distress, and which, in their further operation, seem to threaten the total ruin of his establishment.

I have the Honour to be, &c. &c.

Lucknow,

(Signed)

JOHN BRISTOW,

4th October 1783.

Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Ordered, That the enclosures in the foregoing letter be entered after the Consultation.

The Governor General thinks it proper to exculpate the secretary from any possible charge of delay, in laying the above letter before the Board. It was sent in circulation in proper time, but escaped the Governor General's attention.

The

The following letter having been received from the secretary to the public department, the Board's resolution was communicated to Mr. Wombwell on the 9th instant, and he was directed to conform to it.

To Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary to the Political Department.

Sir,

In obedience to the commands of the Honourable the Governor General and council, in their general department, I transmit you the annexed extract of their proceedings of this Day.

I am, &c.

General Department,  
Council Chamber,  
5th January 1784.

(Signed) W. BRUERE,  
Secretary

*EXTRACT of Consultation, 5th January 1784.*

Resolved, that the Board do exert its influence with the Nabob Vizier for the payment of his bond to Mr. Frazer, and that the same be included in the estimates for the current year; viz.

Principal	—	—	—	Sa Rs 1,23,000	—	—
Interest at 12 per cent. per annum, from 1st Shauban or						
15th July 1782, to 15th September 1783	—	—	—	17,260	—	—
				Sa Rs 1,40,260	—	—

Ordered, That this resolution be referred to the political department.

A true Extract.

(Signed) W. BRUERE,  
Secretary.

*EXTRACT of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to the Honourable the Governor General and Council, 30th of August 1783.*

If I may form any conclusion from his (the acting minister's) conduct, it is not less his desire to confirm the dangerous power of Almas Ally Cawn, by leaving him in possession of all his countries—These are points, Gentlemen, of such immediate importance to the welfare and existence of his Highness the Vizier's government, that, agreeably to my instructions, nothing on my part has been omitted, in the way of protest and remonstrance, to deter the minister from the prosecution of them. So entirely, however, has Hyder Beg Cawn thrown of all respect and consideration for your representative, that I must confess I have no longer any expectation of good from this mode of interference. At the same time, I am at a loss, Gentlemen, how otherwise to act. Having already seen my endeavours to execute treaties interpreted into a design to infringe and usurp the Sovereign rights of the Nabob, I cannot flatter myself that an attempt to secure his dominions against the horrors of future rebellion would from his minister meet a more favourable construction. In this Dilemma, I beg leave to request your explicit directions for my guidance, upon a supposition that the minister, undeterred by my remonstrance, should at last determine to continue a system, which, by a most impolitic division of his Highness's treasures and forces, leave no security to government for the payment of the revenues, and the peace of the country, except what may be derived from the uncertain forbearance and moderation of a few powerful and haughty individuals. Of the fallibility of this dependance, indeed,

indeed, if it were necessary, Gentlemen, to search for examples in proof of a self-evident proposition, the instance of Almas Ally Cawn's revolt last year would, I apprehend, be decisive.

A true Extract.

(Signed)

JOHN BRISTOW,

Resident at the Vizier's Court.

EXTRACT of the Honourable the Governor General's Instructions to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court; dated the 23d of October 1782.

Almas Ally Cawn, 7th.—The means by which Almas Ally Cawn has been permitted to acquire independence have been long seen, and the effects of it foretold by every person acquainted with the state of that government, except those immediately interested in it. The late resident has been his constant advocate; and I lately understood that, however truly, the minister disclaims all concern in this imprudent measure. It is very extraordinary that his defection, his retreat to the frontier, the subsequent negotiations which passed between him and the Nabob, the engagements concluded between them, which resemble more a treaty between equal states than a transaction between a sovereign and his vassal, have all passed without the least communication or report of them being made to me by the resident, or his assistant, or the minister; and, in a letter which I have lately received from the Nabob, the minister has had the presumption to make the Nabob declare the whole to be false and without foundation, and to affirm that every part of his dominions enjoyed the most perfect peace and tranquility. Upon this subject the behaviour of the minister is so reprehensible, that I think it incumbent upon me to let him know my sentiments of it. It will at least shew him how thin the veil is by which he covers his own acts, and that such artifices will only tend to make them the more criminal, from the falsehood and duplicity with which they are associated. As for Almas Ally Cawn himself, the policy which has been observed towards him has been scandalously derogatory from the Nabob's dignity and interest, and hurtful to the reputation of our government, so far as it is connected, or the world will think it connected, with it. If any engagement shall actually subsist between them at the time you have charge of the residency, it must, however exceptionable, be faithfully observed. But if he has been guilty of any criminal offence to the Nabob his master, for which no immunity is provided in the engagement, or he shall break any one of the engagements of it, I do strictly enjoin you, and it must be your special care to endeavour, either by force or surprize, to secure his person and bring him to justice. By bringing him to justice, I mean that you urge the Nabob to punish him with death, on a due consideration, as a necessary example to deter others from the commission of the like crimes; nor must you desist till this is effected. I cannot prescribe the means; but to guard myself against that obloquy to which I may be exposed by a forced misconstruction of this order by those who may hereafter be employed in searching our records for cavils and information against me, I think it proper to forbid, and protest against the use of any fraudulent artifice or treachery to accomplish the end which I have prescribed; and as you alone are privy to this order, you will of course observe the greatest secrecy, that it may not transpire. But I repeat my recommendation of it, as one of the first and most essential duties of your office.

A true Extract.

(Signed)

JOHN BRISTOW,

Resident at the Vizier's Court.

From Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated the 26th of Jemmady ul Ewul 1197, or 29th April 1783.

I request you will favour me with a statement of the Jumma, for the complete year, of the provinces of Corah, Etaya, Jugdiessore, &c. all the countries under Almas Ally Cawn. The accounts which you gave me of Bareilly, &c. under Khauja Gin Uddien, are those of last year; nothing of the present year is to be understood by them, and they are of little service.

Be pleased to order the latter to be furnished from the Duan's office, and transmit them to me.

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Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply.

I have received your letter. I before caused to be prepared and presented to you such accounts of Corah, Etya, Jugdiesspore, as were deposited in the office according to the usage observed by farmers. I will cause them to be again prepared by the Dewanny officers, and present them to you. When you required an account of particulars of the Jumma of the districts in Bareilly, &c. I represented to you, that they had been let upon lease for some years past, and it was not usual for such accounts to be deposited in the office; but the accounts of former administrations, during the time they were in trust, I had caused to be prepared by Duan's Mottessidies, and delivered to you. Bareilly, &c. was farmed last year, and the account particulars of each district in it have not been received. They were estimated according to the Aumil's agreement; and this year that they are in trust the accounts will be transmitted after the taxes are settled. Whenever they may be received, I will present them to you: I have written for them.

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Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn: dated the 27th Jemmady ul Ewul, or 30th April, 1783.

I am favoured with your letter concerning the accounts of Bareilly Corah Etya and Jugdiesspore. I have by me the account of the said districts, which you furnished from the Dewanny office; and there will be no use in causing those accounts to be again given to me by the officers of the Dewanny. It is very true, the Aumils do not transmit the accounts of the taxes they levy when they farm districts, but I imagined that the person invested with the authority for the time being, in order to ascertain the advantage and disadvantage to government, and to form his judgment in making the settlement, would enquire into the particulars of the taxes, and obtain an account of them, especially of such important places as are under the management of Khauja Gin Uddien and Almas Ally Cawn, amounting to above half the Vizier's dominions; otherwise their value being unknown, a compliance with any demands which these Aumils might require in their own favour, would become a measure of necessity. Owing to these causes, Almas Ally Cawn and Khauja Gin Uddien, notwithstanding their being uncontrolled rulers of the districts entrusted to their charge, and deriving great benefit and advantage from government, have had remitted to them very considerable sums under the head of decrease. Thus, in the place of putting their countries into a flourishing and cultivated state, I understand, from the accounts in my possession, both the population and cultivation have decreased; and having reaped great profit themselves the country is thrown into general ruin. In consequence of the heavy balance due from Khauja Gin Uddien, I have wrote him, in plain and explicit terms, that he must consider his welfare will depend upon the payment of the Company's demands, and he should not make light of my friendship. He has nevertheless totally neglected to make remittances, and is constantly writing vague excuses; of these incidents I have repeatedly apprized you. I rely on your devising expedients for realizing the assignment on Bareilly &c. that you will now be pleased by some means to enforce payment from Khauja Gin Uddien, and that he receive the punishment due for his offences. I understand an account of the taxes, levied by Khauja Gin Uddien, it is not recorded in the office. I hope you will favour me with one, when you may be able to obtain it; and I beg that you will conceal the contents of letters of this nature, which are secret from every body except Mounshee Mahomed Taker.

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From Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated the 7th Rujjub 1197, or the 8th June 1783.

In the account which I have received from you, the particulars of each district in Shallera are specified, but they are wanting in those of Corah, Etya, and Jugdiesspore, and therefore I must trouble you for a separate statement of them.

Hyder

Hyder Beg Cawn in reply; dated the 8th of Rujjub 1197, or 9th June 1783.

You are pleased to order a separate statement of the particulars of the Jumma of Corah and Etya, which has not been made out since they were let upon lease; the settlement has been concluded according to the custom in such cases. I will cause the settlement of these provinces, when they were formerly in trust, to be prepared to-morrow, and the day after it shall be presented to you.

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Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated the 26th Shabaan 1197, or 27th July 1783.

If you have ascertained the particulars of the taxes, and the several divisions of the districts in Corah and Etya, be pleased to favour me with them, being particularly wanted. The sooner these statements are furnished, the more pleasing it will be.

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Hyder Beg Cawn, in reply.

When I do myself the honour to wait upon you to-morrow, I will address you on the subject of the accounts you require, and obey your commands.

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Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated the 29th of Shabaan 1197, or 30th July 1783.

I must trouble you for a statement of the several districts in Corah and Etya, a subject on which I have repeatedly importuned you. If you have been able to obtain it, oblige me with it.

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Hyder Beg Cawn, in reply.

You order me to furnish a statement of the districts in Corah and Etya. When I have the honour to wait upon you to-morrow, I will explain the matter to you, by inspecting the statement of former years, with which I have furnished you. The account you require may therefrom be prepared in the manner you are pleased to direct.

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Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated the 3d of Rumlaan 1197, or 2d August 1783.

I do not wish to give you unnecessary trouble in my correspondence; but as the period for making the settlement is elapsing, and as yet no statement of the districts in Corah and Etya is formed and presented to me, be pleased to inform me if you can fix a time for favouring me with the said statement.

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Hyder Beg Cawn, in reply.

You order a statement of the district in Corah and Etya. I represented to you that you might, according to your pleasure, prepare a statement of them from the former accounts with which I had furnished you. Twice have I since waited on you; and, owing to other affairs which I had to state to you, and your commands to me, neither of us recollected this business. I shall attend on

on you to-morrow, and will prepare the statement from those accounts. Whatever is your pleasure will be done.

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Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated 6th of Rumgaan 1197, or 5th August 1783.

I understand, by your favour of the 29th of Shabaan, that a statement of the districts in Corah and Etya may be formed from the accounts with which you have furnished me. The day before yesterday you also verbally promised to explain this matter to me. I have searched a great deal after those accounts, and have formed the account particulars of Sharah and Judeespore, but cannot find any for Corah and Etya; moreover I do not recollect that you ever furnished me with them in the form I required, though it is three months since I have importuned you. If in my possession, how could I have troubled you so repeatedly on the subject? The day before yesterday Almas Ally Cawn discharged the sums due from him in full, and the term for which he entered into engagements, on account his farm will shortly expire, wherefore be pleased most speedily to form a plan of settlement for the districts under his charge. When matters of such importance, and the settlement of the whole provinces are in agitation, I submit it to your judgment, whether it is advisable or not that his Highness should proceed to Fyzabad. Be pleased to favour me with an answer.

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Hyder Beg Cawn, in reply.

I have received your favour. I caused two papers concerning Etya and Corah, containing the accounts of former times, to be delivered to you. It does not signify if, from the multiplicity of papers, they cannot be found, as I have other copies by me. To-morrow I will wait on you. Affairs of importance depend upon the orders of his Highness. The day after to-morrow is fixed for giving Maho Raja Surat Sing his Kelaat, and dispatching him. I solicited his Highness to delay his departure until the day after to-morrow. He answered, that his mother was indisposed, and his anxiety to visit her prevented his compliance. He directed Maha Raja Surat Sing should follow him, and his Highness would dispatch the Maha Raja from Nabob Gunga.

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Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated the 15th of Rumzaun 1197, or 14th August 1783.

No settlement of the districts under Almas Ally Cawn has yet taken place. The season is elapsing, and it is proper that this business should be speedily concluded.

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Hyder Beg Cawn, in reply.

I have received your favour. You are pleased to direct the settlement of the districts under Almas Ally Cawn. I am obedient to your order. I will attend upon you, and represent all the particulars.

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Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated the 17th of Rumzaun, or 16th August 1783.

I have received your letter of the 15th instant, in answer to mine on the subject of the settlement of Almas Ally Cawn's district. You have for a long time past, on every occasion, told me, in reply to my requisitions (instead of forming arrangements, executing the business, and settling accounts, &c.) that you will obey my orders. I sincerely wish that the Vizier's affairs were well settled; and the Company's assignments, on account of the ensuing year, should be immediately ascertained, as both governments must suffer from the delay. The responsibility of what has happened, or may happen, will rest with you.

Hyder

Hyder Beg Cawn, in reply.

I have received your letter. You are pleased to write as if the settlement of Almas Ally Cawn's districts, the execution of the business, the adjustment of the accounts, and the delays which have occurred, rested upon me. Do me the justice, sir, to point out the particular instances in which I have evaded or delayed to obey your commands. You directed nomination of Aumils to the several districts; they were immediately made. You ordered the accounts of receipts and disbursements to be settled; I stated the Aumils representation, and informed you, that I would cause them to be prepared agreeable to the Summa you might fix, and present them to you. You directed a reduction of expence; I replied, that you had the accounts of the year 1190 Fuffully, and wherever, and in whatever mode you thought proper, orders should be issued to the Aumils regarding the Company's assignments. I have already represented to you, and I now do, that there is no objection on my part in obeying your orders, at whatever time, and in whatever mode you please to give them. The Company's assignments are a business of greater importance than any other: His Highness also is intent on it; and I must consider my own welfare and advantage as depending on the execution of the Company's affairs. There is no objection on this head concerning a charge in Almas Ally Cawn's districts you delayed until he had discharged the sum due from him. A few days are elapsed since he has done it, and you ordered a change: The period is not a long one. I represent to you, among instances of security and confidence to the Company, that large assignments were always granted on Almas Ally Cawn; his payments are more regular than those of any banker, and he has invariably every year discharged to the last farthing. Now that it is your pleasure to remove Almas Ally Cawn, undoubtedly other Aumils shall be appointed, who will pay the Company's demands without giving trouble. A list of the Aumils unemployed, those who are solicitous for employments, and a statement of the division of the districts under Almas Ally Cawn, have been presented to you; and I will exhibit to his Highness the names of the persons, and the district to which you may appoint them. An answer may be received in two days—that will not be a distant period. I do not, in any respect, excuse myself from the obedience and submission I owe you night and day. I am attentive to the Company's affairs, and my obedience to you. Whatever you have ordered I have obeyed, and now even I obey. As a person in whom the utmost confidence and reliance may be placed for the punctuality of his payment, a circumstance well known to you, I quote Almas Ally Cawn, when I speak of the Company's assignments, which are an object prior to every other affair, except in this particular, I do not recommend Almas. Be pleased to favour me with your nomination of Aumils to Almas Ally Cawn's districts, that I may exhibit the same to his Highness. An answer will speedily arrive. My reason for having asked your orders regarding a reduction of expence, indeed I now ask them, is this: In places where the expences are regulated by custom, those you will approve, because it is certain that your attention is given to the preserving order in the country. Several persons who, during last year, have demanded more than is customary, and wish to do the same in future, will not consent to my arrangement; wherefore I ventured to solicit your orders and plans. In any other situation it is the duty of a servant of government to represent, to the best of his judgment, whatever is right, as a well-wisher. Ultimately, whatever may be your order shall be done.

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Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated 23d Rumzaun, 22d August 1783.

I have received your letter, in answer to mine of the 17th instant, on the subject of the settlement of Almas Ally Cawn's districts.—The concise state of the case is this, that I entertain a disposition to forward the affairs of both governments, and consider a war of words as useless; wherefore I must ask, whether or not you recollect my shewing you the original correspondence between Mahajy Scindia and Chyt Sing, and Almas Ally Cawn? It is evident therefrom, that Almas Ally Cawn had connected himself with these chiefs; and in other respects, by marching last year to Secundera, he gave proofs of his disposition to withdraw his allegiance from the Vizier's government. As he had returned to Lucknow agreeable to his Highness's orders, and you and Mr. Johnson entered into a treaty with him before my arrival at Lucknow, I did not think it right to make any retrospection into his conduct, nor would I now wish to deviate from the treaty, if he will relinquish the districts under his charge without tumult or disturbance. I represented to the Governor General my intentions of advising his Highness to dismiss Almas Ally Cawn, and I continued Colonel Morgan and Colonel Sir John Cumming, to guard against Almas Ally Cawn's contumacy when his dismissal should take place. Whatever I have undertaken in this business is agreeable to the Governor General's instructions.—I have repeatedly written to you, and I now write, that you make the settlement of Almas Ally Cawn's districts. Be pleased privately

vately to form a plan of arrangement, and present it to me, that whenever his Highness may arrive it should be immediately carried into execution. In case his Highness's return should be postponed, it is advisable, at the present juncture, you address him on the subject of the present settlement of the country, and solicit that he should be pleased speedily to come to Lucknow. I have stated these secret matters to you without disguise, and I desire an answer, whether or not you will comply with my requisition.

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Hyder Beg Cawn, in reply.

I have received your letter on the subject of the settlement of Almas Ally Cawn, and other matters, which you communicated to me as secret. In this case I have replied to your orders, that I was obedient, and I never addressed his Highness on secret matters, except by your permission. I am obedient to your pleasure in every business, and at all times. His Highness was this day to leave Fyzabad, and will arrive in two or three days. I am in any way ready in my submission to your pleasure in this business.

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Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated the 28th Rumzan 1197, or 27th August 1783.

Be pleased to acquaint me if you have yet formed a plan for the settlement of Almas Ally Cawn's districts; as the time is elapsing, the sooner this business is settled the better. In my address to you of the 23d instant, I asked, whether or not you recollected the correspondence between Mahajy Scindia and Chyt Sing, and Almas Ally Cawn? I repeat my request to you, whether or not you have perused it.

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Hyder Beg Cawn, in reply.

I have received your letter. You enquire if I have formed a plan for the settlement of Almas Ally Cawn's districts, and desire I would present it to you. At all times, whatever you have ordered concerning the general settlement of the country I have executed, and I never objected to your commands relative to Almas Ally Cawn's affairs, but represented to you that you were furnished with a list of Aumils unemployed, and the solicitations for employment, and I would exhibit to his Highness the nominations to the respective districts as you should be pleased to order.—To-morrow I will attend upon you, and state other matters.

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Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated the 29th of Rumzaun, or 28th August 1783.

In my letter of the 23d and 28th instant, I addressed you concerning the perusal of the original correspondence between Mahajy Scindia and Chyt Sing, and Almas Ally Cawn; you evaded making any reply. For the third time I now must trouble you to inform me, whether or not you have perused the said correspondence.

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Hyder Beg Cawn, in reply.

I am favoured with your letter. Twice and thrice have I solicited you, "that you would be pleased to direct what was advisable, and it should be done, concerning Almas Ally Cawn's affairs."

I never objected to this business. In answer to my repeated applications, you directed me not to address his Highness on the subject until the Aumils were named. In order to relieve myself from

from any blame in this business, I repeat my representation to you, that I do not object. I will do whatever you order. Other matters I explained at our interview this day.

COPY of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Colonel James Morgan, commanding the Troops in the Field; dated Lucknow, 27th August 1783.

The period approaching when I expect Almas Ally Cawn's dismissal from the districts under his authority will take place, I transmit you a statement of the troops under his command, and their stations, as nearly as I have been able to ascertain them. I hope this event will be unattended with tumult; but I furnish you with the information, that every necessary precaution may be taken.

STATEMENT of Almas Ally Cawn's Troops.

With whom.	Horse.	Foot.	Artillery.
Sobah Ram and Sewaram, Foujdars of Etawa	800	1,600	5
Shaik Afimul Deen, Foujdar Ackberabad Secundara	200	400	
Takoor Doss, Foujdar Shokrah	500	1,000	4
Sutul Purfand, Foujdar Corah	500	1,000	5
Jeffing Roy, Aumil Pippaud	200	1,000	2
Huffure Cawn, Jugduspore, Ancune, &c.	200	1,000	4
Huffein Buxsh Chelap, Foujdar Futtypore	400	1,000	2
At Meak Gunge	650		
At Talgong	1,400	1,700	18—4 large.
	4,850	8,700	40
With Almas at Lucknow	150	300	
Total	5,000	9,000	40

N.B. 20 pieces of the above artillery belong to the Nabob.

20 D<sup>o</sup> — D<sup>o</sup> — D<sup>o</sup> — Almas.

To Colonel Sir John Cumming, commanding a detachment on the frontier station—The same as to Colonel Morgan.

COPY of a Letter from Colonel James Morgan to Mr. Bristow; dated Cawnpore, 29th August 1783.

I have received your letter of the 27th instant, with the statement of Almas's forces; and I have transmitted, as my instructions direct, a copy of them to the Board, and have requested their instructions on the subject of them.

In

In the meantime give me leave to remark, that in case the service of any of the troops of this station is required, two regiments may be supplied them. I shall have only two regiments here (one of which is a broken one) which cannot be considered as a force fit to act with on emergency, especially as the strength of a regiment is reduced nearly one third by the new establishment; and it does not appear that I can move the brigade without the Board's orders, unless on a sudden emergency against a foreign enemy: But, upon a requisition for troops, I am directed to send such a proportion as I am able, without endangering the security of the station; therefore, should you want more than two regiments, it will be absolutely necessary for me to call Captain Dennis and Alston's battalions in here, and application must be made to Colonel Blair for other troops to take up their stations; and you are not unacquainted of Colonel Sir John Cumming's detachment being designed by the Board for guarding and keeping in quietness the provinces above Korah; and this station is more conveniently situated to send troops from against Almas's forces, which, according to your statement, are for the most part situated not far from it. In case of any disturbance happening, to march the brigade against such a divided and separated a force as Almas's appears to be by the statement, would be putting the Company to a very great expence, which is unnecessary in my opinion, as the service can be performed full as well by strong detachments from Colonel Sir John Cumming's force, assisted with two or three regiments from this station, though there must be two regiments here at least, as it takes 500 men to furnish the ordinary camp guards; besides, putting the brigade in readiness will immediately set the country in alarm, and such a force as two regiments can march off always, with their guns, &c. on twenty-four hours warning. But I beg leave to observe, it will be necessary to have some of the Nabob's cavalry to act with the detachments sent upon this service.

When Major Nicol's regiment is collected, it will be sufficient, with such of the Nabob's as are there, for quelling any disturbance in any part of the country near him, therefore he can remain there.

There is one circumstance which I beg leave to acquaint you with; that is, in consequence of the late orders for reducing the establishment, there will be about 4,000 old sepoys discharged from the corps now in his Excellency's dominions on the first of next month, and most of them may be entertained by Almas, if he should be inclined to make any opposition, or raise disturbances.

Whenever it may be expedient to call upon me for troops, I request that a requisition from his Excellency the Vizier may come through you for that purpose, as I must advise the Board of all such orders immediately.

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COPY of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cummings to Mr. Bristow; dated Futty Ghur, August 29th, 1783.

I am favoured with your letter of the 27th instant, enclosing a statement of the troops under Almas Ally Cawn.

As it is not possible for me to judge of the probability of a disturbance taking place in this country, in consequence of Almas's dismissal from the office he now holds, I must beg leave to remind you, that the force under my command will be weakened very much by the reduction which will be made in the regiments on the 1st of September (viz. 200 rank and file to be discharged from each) and by the detaching a force to Rohilcund. It would not be possible, without recalling that detachment, to carry more than 2,600 men fit for the service into the field. It also may be necessary to reduce the fort at Etya, should Almas be inclined to keep possession of it, in which event we shall stand in need of four 18 pounders.

I beg leave to suggest to you, whether it would not be most advisable to seize the person of Almas while he remains at Lucknow. The several bodies of troops, now disposed at the several stations mentioned in your statement, would never think of assembling in one body if their chief was confined; whereas, if he remains at liberty, it is not improbable but many of the country people may join in an insurrection in his favour against the Vizier's government, and he may perhaps endeavour to gain the powers on the other side of the Jumma to support his cause. You, however, having the most certain intelligence, are best enabled to judge of the probability of these events.

Mr.

Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated the 29th of Rumzaan, or 28th August 1783.

You this day talked to me on the subject of the settlement of Almas Ally Cawn's districts.—My advice is as follows: That such of his Naibs may be continued, who will in future have no collusion with him, and who are distinguished as well for their attachment to his Highness's government, as for their good conduct in the cultivation of the country; but it does not appear to me there are any among them who answer this description. Should there be any, be pleased to inform me.—For a long time I have constantly importuned you on the subject of the settlement of Almas Ally Cawn's districts; nothing is yet done: Do consider this as a very delicate and important affair. I have repeatedly reminded you of it, and protest against the mischiefs and loss which have accrued or may accrue from the delay. The whole rests with you.

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Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply.

I have received your favour. In regard to the settlement of the districts under Almas Ally Cawn, whenever I was ordered I did not object. His Highness was at Fyzabad. I represented that you were furnished with the Aumils names, and I would exhibit a list of those persons to him whom you might think proper to nominate. An answer would arrive in two days. Now that his Highness is here, be pleased to make the nomination, and I will present them to him. There is no room for reflection or objection on my part—I am obedient. You, Sir, are the magistrate. As you charge me with criminality, without reason, I am helpless. Whenever you direct me to do it, I shall address his Highness.

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Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated 30th of Rumzaan 1197, or 29th August 1783.

I have received your favour, in answer to my query, whether you had perused the original correspondence between Mahajy Scindia and Cheyt Sing, and Almas Ally Cawn. Notwithstanding I have three times addressed you on the subject, you have evaded to answer. You write me other matters, I explained at our interview this day. It is very true, that you yesterday verbally confessed having perused the correspondence. My reason for having asked this confession of you proceeds from the delicacy and importance of the business; and I gave you timely notice, that you might not plead ignorance, in case of your being pleased to recommend Almas Ally Cawn.

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Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply.

I have received your favour. You write regarding the perusal of Mahajy Scindia and Cheyt Sing's letters to Almas Ally Cawn. I represented, "That on waiting on you, I would ask the reason for your putting the question." I did so; and you were pleased to assign as the reason, that it was to prevent my pleading, upon any occasion, ignorance in excuse. Is this acting fairly? As it is some time since you shewed me the letters, why are doubts entertained of my objecting to this business concerning Almas Ally Cawn's affairs? Ten months ago, when you arrived, you said it was unadvisable to leave such extensive countries under his charge. I represented that it was well, take them from him. The measure was, conformably to your orders, executed in regard to Ryzabad, &c. and you directed that he should be removed from Etya and Corah at the beginning of the year. I explained former transactions to you concerning the nomination of Rajah Nunderam to Corah, Rajah Jaggernaut to Etya, and Tokeodas and other Aumils under Almas Ally Cawn being ready to attend; I also fully explained the reasons why my arrangements were set aside. I never recommended Almas Ally Cawn, nor do I recommend him; and on shewing me the letter also, you spoke to me concerning his dismissal from Corah and Etya. I never objected in any manner, nor do I object. Let me know your pleasure, and I will execute it. Be pleased, then, fully to explain why doubts are entertained of my pleading ignorance of the letters, that being informed I may reply to them.

Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated 30th Rumzaan 1197, or 29th August 1783.

I understand, from your answer to my letter, that you indirectly decline making the nomination of Aumils to the districts under Almas Ally Cawn: You write to me to do it, and use evasions; therefore, in the last resort, I must trouble you to inform me, in plain and explicit terms, whether or not you will nominate Aumils for Almas Ally Cawn's districts, and in what time. Write me particularly. In case you decline this business, tell me so without disguise.

Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply.

I am favoured with your letter. You observe, "that I indirectly decline making the nomination of Aumils to Almas Ally Cawn's districts, and that I ask you to do it." You are the director, and I am obedient. Could I have the audacity to make indirect representations to you! Having addressed you on the subject of nominating Aumils to all places, the districts, and persons named for them, were, conformable to your orders, exhibited to his Highness. Every province was settled agreeable to your orders and nominations; for this reason I also addressed you concerning Almas Ally Cawn's districts, representing to you, that I would exhibit to his Highness the names of such persons as you might direct. I have repeatedly represented to you, in Almas Ally Cawn's business, that I did not object or demur. Whatever is your pleasure, be pleased to communicate it to me, and it shall be done. The test in this affair is, that when you directed the withholding Kyrabad, &c. from Almas Ally Cawn, it was immediately executed; and also offered to make a reduction from his other districts, if you chose to do it. You replied, they might remain for the present; I will settle that matter at the beginning of the year. At the time the other Aumils were changed, I spoke to you concerning Almas Ally Cawn, and you told me, that the revenue of his districts was not to be completely discharged until the conclusion of the year; after which period the measure should take place. For some time past, since his payments have been completed, you have directed Aumils to be appointed. I answered, that it was well; I would exhibit to his Highness such persons as you might nominate to succeed him. I have never recommended the continuing Almas Ally Cawn in employment; I replied to whatever you ordered; That it was well: And now also I acquaint you, I will exhibit to his Highness the names of such persons as you may order for Almas Ally Cawn's districts. I have already caused you to be furnished with a list of the Aumils unemployed, and those soliciting and hopeful for employment. After the end, I will attend upon you, and represent affairs more fully to you. There is no objection or demur on my part in this business. I am waiting for your orders.

COPY of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Major James Brown; dated Lucknow, 9th September, 1783.

I enclose a paper of news, from which it will appear as if Almas had intentions of leaving the Vizier's dominions, and connecting himself with the chiefs at Delhi. From his conduct last year, there is little dependence to be placed on his fidelity; and I should be obliged to you for such information as may have come to your knowledge concerning this matter. What renders his conduct extremely suspicious, is, that he left Lucknow suddenly on the 6th instant, without giving notice of his intention, and directed his vakeel to assign some urgent business at Meerut as the cause.

To David Anderson, Esquire—The same as to Major Brown.

COPY of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Colonel James Morgan, commanding the troops in the Field, dated Lucknow, 9th September, 1783.

I enclose a paper of news, from which it will appear as if Almas Ally Cawn had intentions of leaving the Vizier's dominions, and connecting himself with the chiefs at Delhi. I have this instant

instant only received the intelligence. It being too late at night for me to obtain his Highness the Vizier's commands, I must defer writing to you particularly till the morrow. What renders his conduct extremely suspicious, is, that he left Lucknow suddenly on the 6th instant, without giving notice of his intention, and directed his vakeel to assign some urgent business at Meer Gunge as the cause. I have given the same information to Colonel Sir John Cumming and Colonel Knudson.

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Colonel Sir John Cumming, and Lieut. Colonel Knudson—The same as the above; with the following additional paragraph in the letter to Colonel Knudson:

“It is absolutely necessary to use every means in your power to prevent Khaaja Ginuddien's escape; and discover, if you can, if there is any intercourse between him and Almas Ally Cawn; and of what nature.

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Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated 11th Shouaul 1197, or 9th September 1783.

I have the pleasure to enclose you an extract of intelligence I have this instant received, which seems to imply some extraordinary resolution in Almas Ally Cawn. He left this place on the 7th, having neglected the usual formality of acquainting me with his intentions. As I had neither received any notice from yourself of his going, I requested, through Raja Koshaul Roy, that you would favour me with the reason of his absence; when you were pleased to inform me, by the same channel, that he was gone to Meer Gunge on some urgent business, but that he would return shortly; and on the 8th, I received a similar account from the vakeel of Almas. I am now to request you will favour me explicitly with any particulars that have or may come to your knowledge on the subject of the enclosed intelligence; and I must here take leave to remark, that it is now three months ago that I first represented to you the necessity of making the arrangements of Almas's districts; and that since the present time, the subject has been renewed by me repeatedly, both verbally and by letter, yet hitherto no one step has been taken towards such arrangement. The business of Almas Ally Cawn was before a matter of much delicacy, made so by his rebellion last year; his abrupt departure now is sufficient to awaken all our suspicions, and this it is that makes the steps to be taken on this occasion a matter of the first importance. I am therefore to request, that having reflected and determined upon what should be done, you will inform me of your determination.

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EXTRACT of Intelligence accompanying the above, and dated from Naper Uddoulah's Camp, near Deeg, the 7th Shewaul 1197 Higere, or 5th September 1783.

Information has been received, that Mahomed Beg Cawn Humdany has marched two coss towards Behla. The Nabob Naser Uddowlah has in consequence appointed eight hircarrahs to watch his motions, and also dispatched twenty others, for the purpose of giving intelligence respecting the English detachment at Furruckabad.

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EXTRACT 2d, from D<sup>o</sup>; dated 10th Shewaul, or 8th September 1783.

Almas Ally Cawn having crossed the Ganges, has reached the Purgunna of Falgaum, by Relays, in which expedition three horses fell dead under him; we further understand, that it is his intention to pass on to the frontier of his districts.

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Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply.

I have received your favour.—Raja Khooshall Roy made enquiries of me concerning Almas Ally Cawn's going, and I replied, that his vakeel represented his master was gone with your leave

leave. I afterwards repeatedly waited on you, and you did not speak to me on the subject; and the vakeel repeatedly asserted, that he had your leave. Whatever may be your pleasure in this business, is highly proper; and in regard to the settlement of Almas's Ally Cawn's districts, whenever you spoke to me on the subject, I have uniformly answered, "I was obedient to your commands; when you direct me to do it, I will address his Highness." To-morrow I will wait upon you, and execute whatever orders you may be pleased to give me.

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Mr. Bristow, in Reply, to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated 11th Shewaul 1197, or 9th September 1783.

I have been honoured by the receipt of your letter, in reply to that I addressed you on the subject of Almas's Ally Cawn. You inform me, that you understand from Almas's vakeel, that he obtained my permission previous to his departure. If this were so, is it conceivable that I should have expressed my surprize at his going, both to yourself and to the vakeel, and desired to be informed of the cause of it? Or why did his vakeel, in consequence of this procedure on my part, make his master's excuse, saying he was gone on very urgent business? You are also pleased to remark, that with respect to the arrangement of Almas's districts, you have uniformly expressed your readiness implicitly to obey my directions. During three months I have been perpetually representing to you, Sir, that the sooner those districts were settled the better; but instead of the necessary arrangements, I have always received for answer, a repetition of professions of duty and obedience; and hence it is, that to this hour no one salutary measure has been adopted. The questions of most importance now are, whether you think Almas will return or not; and, in case you are of the latter opinion, I desire you will notify to me immediately the pleasure of his Highness, with respect to such directions as he may judge necessary to send to Colonel Morgan and Colonel Cumming; as also, whether or not you will form any plan for the settlement of the districts under Almas, and the time when you will do it. Be pleased to inform me explicitly on those heads.

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Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply.

I am favoured with your letter. What I asserted concerning Almas's Ally Cawn was agreeable to his vakeel's representation. The said Cawn has always attended. Three times, during the course of the year, he went away with your permission, and returned after an absence of a few days. He never asked leave through me; and in this manner his vakeel represents, that on the present occasion he had your permission. If you entertained doubts, you would have forbid his going; and why should he have gone? You are the director, and the Nabob is master: I execute the directions I receive, and am obedient. Almas's Ally Cawn did not go away privately: His vakeel's representation is, that he asked your permission three days previous to his departure. The day he set off, he acquainted you with it; and when likewise Almas's Ally Cawn proceeded onwards from Mean Gunge, he did the same; to which you replied, that it was well. You never spoke to me on the subject, though I repeatedly waited upon you; and now you mentioned it as a matter of surprize. What can I, who am in the station of the obedient, represent to you concerning so clear and plain a transaction? To the vakeel you observed, that it was well; and to me, that it was a matter of surprize. Your hircarrahs and news writers are stationed with Almas's Ally Cawn, and certainly they inform you of all his proceedings. Whenever you have favoured me with your commands concerning the settlement of the districts under Almas's Ally Cawn, I have never made any objection. The business remained in suspense until his payments were completed; and it is not a month, though you specify the period of three months, since he discharged the sums due from him. You have, until this time, even forbid my mentioning the subjects to his Highness. I have repeatedly represented to you concerning Almas's Ally Cawn, that you are the director, and you would please to order what you thought proper regarding him. I am a servant of Government, and will obey. The Aumils have every where been appointed, agreeable to your directions: Lists of the Aumils at present unemployed, specifying their names in general, as well as those of a few persons selected from the whole body, have been presented to you. Be pleased to inform me of the districts to which you think proper to nominate them, that I may exhibit the same to his Highness; but, in making this proposition, I have no view to delay. My reason is this, that you before directed me to nominate Aumils, and I submitted to your inspection a list of persons whom I recommended for each separate district; you altered my nominations at the instigation of others, who conceived in their own houses of Hyder Beg's having nominated such a man to such a district, and "we (say they) persuaded the Resident to appoint another in his room." Whenever I understood that the appointment would be ultimately arranged

arranged according to the advice of others, as it indeed has hitherto been the case, I then acquainted you that I would exhibit to his Highness the names of the persons whom you nominated to the several districts; I therefore did not object with any design to delay or evasion. You desire me to give my opinion, whether Almas will or will not return; and if I should determine in the negative, you request "that orders may be sent to the Colonel." In the presence of my superiors, what is my single opinion?—By the grace of God, all affairs are better known to you than to any other person; and your opinion, whatever it may be, is right and proper. Be pleased to express your commands. It does not depend solely upon my opinion; it becomes superiors, in matters of opinion, to issue their mandates according to their pleasure, and at their own time: they invariably do right, and no detriment can arise therefrom. A person in the station of the obedient has not the audacity to give his opinion, when it may be a subject of future investigation. His Highness is the master, and you are the director; be pleased to order what you think right. I have told you all I have heard from Almas Ally Cawn's Vakeel; do you send for him, and make your enquiries according to your pleasure, or as is proper in the present state of affairs, whether Almas Ally Cawn is still at the place he mentioned, or whether he has proceeded onwards.

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Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated 13th Shewaul 1197, or 11th September 1783.

Almas Ally Cawn informed me, that he was entertaining a Refalla of Furkhowars; I must therefore trouble you to acquaint me if it is by his Highness's or your order, and upon what footing he is so doing, as well as the fund allotted for the support of it.

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Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply.

I have received your letter in regard to Almas Ally Cawn's entertaining a Refalla of Furkhowars, on which you write me: it is entirely unknown to me, and is a matter of surprize. Tomorrow, having ascertained the matter from his Highness, I will inform you.

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Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated 19th Shewaul 1197, or 17th September 1783.

In answer to my letter of the 11th instant, concerning Almas Ally Cawn, you desire me to make the nomination of Aumils to his districts; and on giving you information of them, you would exhibit them to his Highness. You likewise write me that owing to the representation of others, your nominations were before set aside. I have never recommended any person; but, on the contrary, I have acquainted you, that if I objected to any Aumil, you might nevertheless appoint him, if it was your pleasure so to do. I was ready to assist in the execution: the responsibility rested with you. Notwithstanding I have expressed my sentiments to you in such plain and explicit terms, you desire to make the settlement of Almas Ally Cawn's districts, instead of undertaking it yourself. From such conduct is to be understood delay and evasion; and the consequences will be disorder and confusion, when you, the acting minister, thus protract the execution of a business which is of greater importance than any other under his Highness's government. Almas Ally Cawn arrived the day before yesterday; be pleased to inform me of your intentions concerning the settlement of his districts—whether you mean to dismiss him, and the period at which it is to take place; or whether you have not formed a direct contrary resolution. If you should have ascertained the footing upon which Almas Ally Cawn is entertaining a Refalla of Furkhowars, on which subject I addressed you on the 13th instant, you will oblige me by letting me know.

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Hyder Beg Cawn in reply.

I have received your favour. Whenever you applied to me concerning Almas Ally Cawn's districts, I never objected: I requested you, both verbally and by letter, that you would favour me with your orders, agreeable to which I would address his Highness. My objection to nominating

nating Aumils, as before explained to you, is not singly confined to Almas Ally Cawn's districts, but to every other place: and when you may direct me to make nominations, I will return this answer: "That I will exhibit to his Highness the names of such persons for the respective districts as you may be pleased to order."—The person by whose representation the Aumils were hitherto appointed, and in obedience to which I have acted—that person, who has spoke in ridicule, and continues so to do, of my affairs, said very true. The plans and lists of people, which you caused me to form, were merely for the name; the Aumils were ultimately appointed according to the said person's representations. In this situation, I consider my forming plans, and writing, to be useless; and I demur, that I may in future be relieved from ridicule: every man wishes for the honour due to his station. In regard to what you chuse to say from favour towards me, that I am the acting minister, how am I to be considered in that capacity, in affairs not left in his Highness's discretion? whose authority and mine are evident from the transactions which I have stated. Past and present circumstances I have thus plainly and explicitly represented, and do represent to you: After a candid conduct, how can doubts be entertained of evasion and delay? Be pleased to inform me of the persons you have thought proper to nominate to Almas Ally Cawn's districts, that I may exhibit them to his Highness. You wrote to me in consequence of the information Almas Ally Cawn gave you of his entertaining a Refalla of Furkhowars: he is present, enquire of him: he will reply to you on this head.

True Translations and Copies.

(Signed)

JOHN BRISTOW,

Resident at the Vizier's Court.

#### TRANSLATION of Hyder Beg Cawn's Narrative on Almas Ally Cawn's Succession.

When Almas Ally Cawn, after having been at Cunnoge, had returned to Etawa, withdrawn his Aumils from the several districts, and written letters in a style very improper and unbecoming, as it appeared to me highly derogatory from the dignity of government to hesitate at such a time, I gave the following orders, which I thought best calculated to restore tranquillity to the country: that Aumils should be immediately appointed on the part of Government; adding, that I had received letters through Sheek Golaum Husrut, &c. from Almas Ally Cawn's recalled agents, who were perfectly instructed in the detail of business, expressing their willingness to enter into the service of Government; and that I had no doubt his troops would imitate their example. Mr. Johnson originally subscribed to the advice; but Meer Zeen ul Abudun, a friend of Almas's, having afterwards stated that the succession of Almas would be attributed to him, Mr. Johnson, he forbade the appointment of Aumils, and directed that every possible means should be employed to conciliate Almas; and, that to induce him to return, all his requisitions should be complied with, as otherwise he himself would be exposed to all the odium and blame: to which I replied, that as no such consequence was to be apprehended; that we should find it a very easy task, and in a very short time, to take possession of and settle the country, when Almas would be humbled, and readily return of his own accord; otherwise being puffed up with vain imaginations that the collections could not be carried on without his assistance, his insolence and pride would increase; that this was by no means the fact; since they had been heretofore managed without him, and, by the blessing of God, might be so again: that, in the interval between the rains and the season of the collections, the persons appointed to take charge of the districts would have sufficient leisure and opportunity to inform themselves thoroughly respecting them; and would, I had no doubt, faithfully and effectually acquit themselves of the trust reposed in them.—Mr. Johnson however, for the reason above assigned, was inflexible, and positively directed that Almas should be directed back at all events; to which determination I was from necessity compelled to subscribe.

COPY of an Engagement entered into with Almas Ally Cawn, to which were affixed the seals of the Nabob and his minister Hussen Zeza Cawn, and Hyder Beg Cawn, and the signature of Mr. Johnson.

We engage to confine our demands upon Almas Ally Cawn to the terms of his written engagements, and to consider ourselves as guardians of his honour, and that of his family, friends,

friends, and dependants; and we take God and his Prophet, the Twelve Imauns and their issue, and the holy Koran to witness, that we will strictly conform to the articles of this treaty.

True Translation.

(Signed)

JOHN BRISTOW,

Resident at the Vizier's Court.

EXTRACT of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, to the Honourable the Governor General; dated the 5th November 1782.

The acting minister has positively and repeatedly disavowed to me ever having willingly concurred in the measures adopted with regard to Almas's Ally Cawn, at the time of his disaffection. He asserts, that he considered Mr. Johnson, when Acting Resident, as your representative, and invested with your authority; he of course exerted himself in supporting and enforcing every measure that gentleman recommended. He further says, that he often proposed appointing new Aumils, during Almas's absence; but Mr. Johnson objected, though he was assured of the defection of two of the principal men amongst the rebel's followers; a circumstance he did not fail to communicate to Mr. Johnson.

In my address to the Board, I mentioned that it was by my advice Almas's Ally Cawn was deprived of the farms of additional districts, yielding a revenue of sixty lacks a year. Two days after my arrival I conferred with the acting minister, and opened the business by the discussion of Almas's Ally Cawn's conduct, telling him, in very candid though in polite terms, the dissatisfaction you felt at the disgrace thrown upon the Vizier's authority, and reputation of the English nation; and, if he expected your support and protection, he must unite with me in the reduction of Almas's Ally Cawn's power. I asked his advice about dispossessing him entirely: we maturely deliberated upon the subject, but came to no positive determination, except to deprive him of every thing consistent with prudence. The acting minister made light of Almas's power; and only demurred at the present inconvenience that would follow, owing to the weakness of the Vizier's government. The whole Kurreefs, and great part of the Rubby, would be lost before new Aumils could be firmly established; and, if we should fail in creating a defection of his adherents, and Almas resist, we should not be able to procure supplies.—The state of credit at this place is well known to you. In times of peace it has been with great difficulty that the sums required for the public service has been raised.—Almas would probably have purchased a considerable body of Mahrattas, or other marauders: with the assistance of these, and his own troops, a total stop would have been put to the collection of the revenues; and, having no fund of ready cash beforehand in the treasury, to support the expences of the campaign, your army could not have been supplied. The bad government in the other parts of the Vizier's dominions would then have appeared, by general insurrections of Zemindars; and we should have experienced an insufficiency of troops in point of numbers.

These were the principal objections urged against entirely dispossessing Almas, and appeared to us insurmountable. It then became an object of great importance, how to give him confidence, and, at the same time, not betray the dignity and interest of the Vizier. We determined immediately to revoke the engagement for the additional countries; as he was not in possession, they were not liable to the inconvenience attending others. We put the matter upon the plea, that Almas had in his correspondence, and verbally, repeatedly remonstrated against holding any farms, and therefore we could relieve him from trusts which were irksome to him. He had the insolence even, on receiving the perwannahs from the additional countries, to pretend to confer a favour on government. Almas had deferred dispatching his Naibs until I took the charge, as I informed the Board, because he wished to have the sanction of the Company to his usurpations. I left Hyder Beg to communicate my sentiments to him regarding the additional countries, and bring him to visit me, and settle for such districts as he was in actual charge of. Almas's Ally Cawn, on our first meeting, confirmed the truth of the declaration he had made verbally, and by letter, of his wish to withdraw himself from all public employments: but, under the present administration, he found himself otherwise disposed; he now had confidence, and would readily undertake any charge with which the Vizier would honour him. He was however informed of the determination not to trust him with the additional countries. He could not conceal his agitation at the disappointment; for, as he had been accustomed to very different language, his pride was affected by the change this treatment of him would have in the eyes of the world. He however did not answer me disrespectfully or improperly; Whatever

Whatever was determined, he said, he would most willingly conform. I gave him the strongest assurances of support in the line of his duty; and, that he might depend upon the performance of my promises, I explained my sentiments in private; making a particular request, that, if he entertained doubts of my sincerity, he would plainly tell me so: on my part, I would on all occasions advise and assist him in the management of his affairs. I urged to him the impossibility of the Vizier's submitting to repeated insults to his person and authority, and that he could not expect my support longer than he did his duty. I now grounded my hopes and claims of obedience from him upon the personal friendship which had for years subsisted between us. I disclaimed the reports, circulated with a view of alarming him, of treachery being intended; he might be assured, if the English ever acted against him, their measures would be fair and open. Much conversation did then, and has since (at different meetings) passed between us. He possesses entire satisfaction, confidence, and obedience. I shall proceed to explain the reasons which occur to me for his doing so; as I can hardly think, after his late conduct, he will ever be contented to humble himself again to a private station.

Almas Ally Cawn connected himself at Delhi with Affranfaub Cawn; and when that party had first the prospect of gaining the ascendancy, he bought two forts near Secundera. He sent a reinforcement to assist against Mahomed Beg Humdanny, who had seized upon Hinmut Behadre Jay Daad, and took an active part in the disturbances; thinking, at all events, to secure himself an asylum, by holding at the same time the frontier provinces (Etawa and Corah) of the Vizier's dominions, which he saw he could have upon his own terms. He stipulated for a reduction of revenue, personal security, and to be released from the obligation of attending at Lucknow; all which disgraceful conditions were eagerly agreed to. Thus far his affairs succeeded; but his friends at Delhi being worsted, as you will observe by Mr. Middleton's letters of the 15th and 17th September, and Mirza Shuffer having got the better, he lost all footing in that quarter. His friend, Affranfaub Cawn, or somebody of the party, also treated him ill, by seizing about a lack and sixty thousand rupees of his money. The fluctuating state of affairs at Delhi, evinced to him the fallacy of endeavouring at an establishment there: And thus necessity, not inclination, has in my opinion, brought him back to Lucknow. The same necessity has been the principle of my conduct towards Almas; but, suppose the minister had assented to his entire removal, I do not see the persons ready, at the present juncture, to supply his place. The distress the Vizier has suffered from Almas's conduct, as well as every principle of policy, whatever may be his merit or former services, require the reduction of his power. He is allowed, by the estimates shewn me, nineteen lacks of rupees per annum, on account of Mehaul charges and Mootayenna; and he has entertained three thousand five hundred cavalry, and nine thousand and fifty-three infantry, exclusive of artillery, and the troops he is authorized to entertain by Government: these are entirely appointed and commanded by himself. I have not had time to ascertain the numbers or denomination of any other troops he may keep of his own authority. He has, for a long time past, been collecting ammunition and stores, and given great attention to the fort of Coder Coat, which I am informed, he has rendered very strong. These particulars, relative to Almas Ally Cawn, it is my duty to communicate to you; and I am exceedingly anxious to receive your approbation. I propose temporizing with Almas until the conclusion of the year; and when the crop shall be off the ground, and the revenue realized, I would then recommend the removing him from all trust. This will afford me the opportunity of ascertaining more exactly the disposition of his adherents. I think many might be brought to quit him, especially when they would see themselves supported by the armies under the Colonels Morgan and Sir John Cumming. The success of this enterprise will depend upon the unanimity and secrecy observed between the commanding officers and myself. I shall not acquaint them of my plan until it receives your approbation, and the time of executing it may be at hand.

Almas Ally Cawn has, within these four days, through the minister, and other intermediate persons, made application to me to recommend him to the Vizier to farm Sahlone, and other districts, yielding a revenue of twenty lacks. He also again expressed his inclination to take the additional countries; and I have always returned him a positive but polite refusal.

A true Extract.

(Signed) W M H I L L,  
Assist to the Residt.

TRANSLATION

## TRANSLATION from Rajah Chite Sing to Munnoo Loll; dated the 21st Ramzan.

I received your letter on the 21st Ramzan, and understand the friendship and care you express for my concerns, and that Almas Ally Cawn will certainly come here in the course of one or two months. I am firmly of opinion that what you write will undoubtedly happen; but you ought well to consider the trouble I have had in managing the matter with Sindia, and even effected more than Almas Ally Cawn wishes. By the grace of God every thing is now settled. I have dispatched the Sunnuds for Lahar, which is given him for the purpose of securing his effects in; and, if he really intends coming here, there will never be any deviation from the engagement. It is well that he has accepted his old countries, as adviseable at the present juncture. Whatever is to be done, let it be to his satisfaction. It would be adviseable for the said Almas to temporize with Sindia, and take the country as a last resource; because the other party, sensible that he has connected himself with the people to the southward, and apprehensive he should slip from their hands, they have therefore given him a ketap, as a trap to catch him; and they will not fail to practise treachery.

P. S. I have also heard that Almas Ally Cawn wishes to correspond with the people here, through a different channel. You who have given yourself so much trouble, and I who have settled every thing, and had so many disputes with Sindia on this subject in your presence, what are we to conclude? Perhaps this may not be true; but you will enquire, and let me know. Undoubtedly, as the business is now concluded, people here will endeavour to bring him over to their party: you have to guard against their doing it. Consult and transact your business with Myre Abdul Huck and Anundrow Pundit; and if any one should attempt to create jealousies, hear him not, but only be attentive to the accomplishment of the business. There is no occasion to say any more on this subject to you, who are wise and intelligent. I before sent a letter, which you must have received: Afford me the satisfaction, by constantly writing. Your son was a little indisposed; but now, by God's grace, is recovered. I had an interview with him this day, when he brought me your letters. Rest contented: all other matters you will understand from my letter to Misser.

## Cheyte Sing to Almas Ally Cawn; dated 22d Ramzan.

I have been made happy by the receipt of your letter. I learn from Mire Abdul Huck Anendrow, and Munnoo Loll, of your reinstatement in your country, as an adviseable measure in the present times, which affords me satisfaction. At this place the wishes of your heart were accomplished, which indeed the above-named persons must have informed you of. I now inclose you a letter from Mahajee Scindia, which will explain matters to you. Your wishes, by the grace of God, will be accomplished. At all times, and in every situation, consider me your friend, and favour me with your correspondence and kind remembrance.

## Mootee Sing to Munnoo Lall.

Lalla Seetaram is dispatched to you, and from him you will learn the state of affairs at this place. In the bond business, Almas Ally Cawn will cause a letter to be written to Sindia and you, regarding what is to be done. It is proper you should settle it; and, when Almas may come, you shall be sent for. Rest satisfied of every thing from this quarter.

## Chite Sing to Almas Ally Cawn; dated the 15th Shanaal.

I have received your letter, and one to Meha Raja Patteil Behadre, acknowledging the receipt of the Lahos Sunnuds; and am pleased, and understand the contents. I immediately had an interview with the Maha Raja; and we read your letters together, and paid our attention to them.

them. Whenever we meet, the sincerity of our friendship will then be proved.—You wrote, concerning the Purgunnah of Lahar, “that you were ignorant of the Jumma of Lahar, and requested the matter might be suspended, on account of the news-writers. When you arrived at Etawa, what was advisable would be written; and to include the places on this side under my name.”—My friend, the Jumma of Lahar is small (may be about one lack of rupees) but the fort is large and strong. The Meha Raja gave it to you, for the purpose of keeping your effects and family in, agreeable to the original plan, when you intended to come here; and directed that other countries should be appropriated for your expences. This his intension Myre Abdul Huck, Anundraw, and Munoo Lall, will have particularly explained to you.—The custom of farms is different.—If it is your wish to include in my country, let there first be a meeting between the Maha Raja, you, and I, that we may settle some firm agreement, and gratify the wishes of our hearts; and whatever you desire shall be done. Many matters cannot be explained by writing; a great deal depends on an interview. At all events, I wish you good; in effecting which, I consider the advantage as mutual.

Almas Ally Cawn to Munnoo Loll.

I have received your letters, forwarding one from the Meh Raja and Chyte Sing, and understand the contents. Inclosed I return an answer to each of them, which you will cause to be delivered.—Agreeably to Chyte Sing's desire, under pretence of going to the fair, I went to Batipur, that I might seize that opportunity of meeting him: But his tents were far distant from that place; and unluckily I was forced to come away, on account of celebrating the Mohunum, and to inspect the affairs of my country. My desire, however, is still the same to see him, and I earnestly wish for his prosperity. Every thing will be done at a proper time, and Providence will bring affairs about according to our wishes. I have written to the Rajah about all other matters, from which the whole will be understood; and have not, therefore, used any repetition to you. Always give me particular information of what passes, and make me happy.

COPY of a Letter from Almas Ally Cawn to Mahajee Scindia.

I have written a treaty to the following purport:—“That your friends and enemies be considered as mine. I will never depart from your orders; and, when you request my attendance, I shall be ever ready; and, to prevent any deviation, I here call to witness God, his Prophet, and the Coran. In every respect I am anxious for your welfare, and wish to devote the remainder of my life to your service.”

Written the 30th Shawul.

The same from Almas Ally Cawn to Chyte Sing, except that he has not mentioned his attending on Chyte Sing, when he shall call for him.

A true Translation.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW.

*EXTRACT from the Correspondence between Mr. David Anderson, Resident with Scindia, and Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court.*

Mr. Anderson to Mr. Bristow, dated 29th October 1782.—Extract.

I have received information that one Amuret Row, who is said to be in Scindia's service, but stationed with Cheyt Sing, left the camp three days ago, and is gone on some commission to Almas Ally Cawn; but whether from Scindia or Cheyt Sing is not known.

I have thought it necessary to mention this circumstance, because, if you find it is true, it will doubtless have some weight with you in judging of the degree of confidence, and the extent of the charge, which at this important period you can venture to give Almas Ally Cawn. You will  
also,

also, I imagine, think it necessary to ascertain if Annut Row enters into intercourse with other persons at Lucknow, particularly the Aumils in charge of districts, the Begum, and the rest of the party disaffected to the present ministry.

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Mr. Anderson to Mr. Bristow, dated 12th November 1782.—Extract.

I beg leave to inclose, for your information, a paper of intelligence which I have this day received from my news-writer at Etawa. There are two circumstances in it, which I think necessary to point out to your attention: 1st, the collecting together all the boats on the Jumna; and 2dly, the passing of Hircarrabs at Etawa from Cheyt Sing to Almas: I am unable to account for the former satisfactorily. I know that there are some disputes betwixt the Aumil at Etawa and Bucht Sing, the Rajah of Bahdourea and Bind, regarding the fort of Cumeit, which is on this side of the Jumna, and which, though it belonged to Etawa, was taken possession of, during the late succession of Almas, by Bucht Sing's people. It is possible that the boats are collected in order to transport troops to recover this fort; but, unless you have been previously informed of such a measure, I should rather suspect that the boats are collected to be in readiness for Almas himself, in case he should find it inconvenient to leave you a second time.

The second circumstance seems to add weight to the intelligence I sent you in my letter of the 29th ultimo, and may enable you to trace whether there is actually any correspondence carried on betwixt Cheyt Sing and Almas, or not.

We ought not to be too ready to give way to mere suspicions, so far as to let them have any influence on our outward conduct. But, in such dubious times, every thing which appears to have the most distant dangerous tendency should be noticed, and, if possible, privately ascertained.

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Mr. Anderson to Mr. Bristow, dated 15th November 1782.—Extract.

I find, from my Etawa intelligence, that the boats were collected at that place to transport the troops destined to recover the fort of Cumeit from the Rajah of Bhadoorea's people; but that letters had been received from Almas, directing that the expedition should, for the present, be stopped, as he had taken his leave of the Nabob, and would soon be at Etawa in person.

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Mr. Bristow to Mr. Anderson, dated the 24th November 1782.—Extract.

Almas proposes to come to Lucknow again very shortly, and continues to profess implicit confidence and obedience. Your intelligence regarding his correspondence with Cheyt Sing is confirmed by the Vizier's agents, as well as those I have employed. I cannot ascertain any particulars of Annut Row, unless he be a man now at Delhy, who wrote me a letter, inclosing one from Scindia: I forward you copies of both. The names of Shuffy Beg and Mahomed Jaffier are fictitious, for Shuffy Ulla and Uscurry Cawn, who inform me they did not chuse to appear in a negociation with the Marattas. Jadoo Row, at this place, is the agent of Annut Row; who, I take it, will appear upon enquiry to be the person you mentioned in your letter of the 29th ultimo. By what I have seen and heard of Jadoo Row, he is come for the purpose of obtaining intelligence; and I apprehend there is no mode of preventing his residence with us, whilst your negotiations with Scindia may continue. It is a fair conclusion, if Annut Row had been deputed to Almas, that he would not have sent his agent (Jadoo Row) to Lucknow; and therefore I am inclined to think their secret correspondence is, at the present juncture, conducted through some other channel.

True Extracts.

T. HILL,

Assistant to the Resident.

ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE of Receipts and Disbursements on Account of Almas Ally Cawn's Districts, as included by Hyder Beg Cawn in the general Estimate of Revenue, on Account the Full-year 1191.

Jumma	-	-	-	-	-	-	69,22,383	8	3
<b>CHARGES.</b>									
<b>Military establishment.</b>									
Horfe	3,554	-	-	9,88,640	14	0			
Deduct Batta, &c.				69,494	14	0			
				9,19,146	0	0			
Foot	9,053	-	-	6,20,056	0	0			
Artillery		-	-	90,639	0	0			
		-	-	1,00,000	0	0			
				17,29,841	0	0			
Charges, collections	-	-	-	2,98,235	5	6			
				20,28,076	5	6			
<b>Net revenue</b>							48,94,307	2	9

**Errors excepted.**

(Signed

JOHN BRISTOW,

### Resident at the Vizier's Court.

STATEMENT of the Etaya and Corah Provinces, during Almas Ally Cawn's Administration.

The Jumma of Chucklah, Etaya, and Corah, for six years, or from 1185 to 1190 in- clusive.		
1183.	Etaya, Zyne ul Abdy Cawn - -	44,85,321
	The Jumma of 1184 I have not been able to ascertain.	
1184.	Corah, Almafz Ally Cawn - -	14,53,251
	The decrease in estimation on this Jumma	58,38,572 for 6 years.
		3,56,31,432 00

DECREASE JUMMA.

1185.	Almas Ally Cawn	-	-	-	2,38,572	0	0	57,00,000	0	0
1186.	Ditto	-	-	-	7,38,572	0	0	52,00,000	0	0
1187.	Ditto	-	-	-	10,38,572	0	0	49,00,000	0	0
1188.	Ditto	-	-	-	5,38,572	0	0	54,00,000	0	0
1189.	Ditto	-	-	-	8,32,957	5	0	57,05,614	11	0
1190.	Ditto	-	-	-	13,88,625	5	0	45,49,946	11	0
Decrease in 6 years					47,75,870	10	0	3,08,55,561 6 0		
								47,75,870 10 0		
Korah,										

Korah, when under Hyder Beg Cawn, during Shuja ul Dowla's lifetime, with the Jaghyres included, was - - - 22,00,000 0 0

At different times, Almas Ally Cawn has farmed Khyrabad, Sultanpore, Goruckpore, and Ferockabad, which are districts remarkable for the refractory spirit of the Zemindars. He nevertheless gained great profit by them; but his conduct has been invariably so oppressive, that his successors have complained of his leaving the countries in desolation and ruin. In short, he collected at the point of the sword, and plundered indiscriminately every rank and class of men. From the best information I can obtain, he has certainly, at the lowest calculation, benefited at least ten lacks a-year, which, from the year 1185 to 1190 inclusive, is, 6

years altogether - - - - - rupees 60,00,000 0 0

Add decrease for the six years of his farm of Etya and Corah, as above specified - - - - - 47,75,870 10 0

Total loss to Government - - - - - rupees 1,07,75,870 10 0

I have omitted in this calculation to note his advantages from the immense allowance granted on account of his civil and military establishments, which were always near a third of the revenues. The management of his troops was left to his own discretion; he appointed his own commanders, and mustered them himself: This was another source of loss to Government. During that present year, I have received numerous representations of the violent and oppressive administration of his Naibs; and I dread an enquiry. The result can only bring to light a series of cruelty, shocking to every humane and feeling mind.

Errors excepted.

JOHN BRISTOW,

Resident at the Vizier's Court.

*Mr. Hastings' Minute.*

Governor General.

20th January 1784.

IT is with reluctance that I bring before the Board a subject of the greatest importance, at a period not ostensibly requiring it; but the necessity of it has been long since foreseen, and not unnoticed in the verbal communications which I have had occasion to make to the members of the Board.

On the 28th of last month, while the late arrangement of the concerns of this government in the province of Oud was under discussion, I received a letter from my secretary, Major Palmér, at Lucknow, containing a very alarming representation of the disordered state of that country, and urging the necessity of my repairing to Lucknow for the purpose of giving my personal and early assistance to the Nabob Vizier for their retrieval.

From other letters, which have been since received from Lucknow upon the same subject, I understand that this was the expressed wish of the Nabob Vizier, his minister, and all the principal persons of his family and court; and I have great reason to believe, that as soon as the Nabob shall have received the notification lately transmitted to him of the last resolutions of the Board, he will declare the same wish in terms, and connect it with his acceptance of the engagement prescribed to him.

It is neither consistent with my interest or ease to resign the ordinary transactions of my station, and by accepting the detail of a single and inferior department, engage in a scene of difficulties, some of which derive their origin from natural causes, and may be insurmountable by human exertions; nor am I very anxious to hazard my reputation on the success of so doubtful a service; yet as the Board has been pleased to commit the affairs of that province in an especial manner to my charge, and have given me the most positive assurances of their support, to enable me to acquit myself of so weighty a responsibility, I conceive this to be a case which will not allow of my attending to any personal suggestion. My services are at all times, and in all cases, primarily due to the most important and most urgent calls of this government. To the importance and urgency of the present exigency are added the obligation of a special trust and engagement, and the pledge of the most powerful aid for my encouragement.

C c

I therefore

I therefore make this early tender of my services to proceed to Lucknow, whenever I shall receive an invitation from the Nabob Vizier to that effect, for the purpose of regulating the Company's interests in that province, and affording the Nabob Vizier the like assistance for the regulation of his.

My reasons for thus anticipating the call which I have supposed are many.

I have already premised, which I now repeat in more forcible terms, than I am morally assured of receiving such a call from the Nabob Vizier; and I make no scruple of affirming, that I can implicitly rely on the deference which he has ever shewn to my advice, and on his confidence in my justice and good faith, for the most willing co-operation on his part in the measures which I shall recommend for his service, and as prompt and ready a submission to the rights which I may exclusively assert on behalf of the Company.

The accumulating distresses of that country require preventive no less than remedial applications. The administration of his government requires the vigorous exertion of the powers of our own to restore and confirm the authority which has been loosened from it. His revenue requires the superintendency of officers acknowledging their dependance on their constitutional master, and possessed of credit and characters equal to the responsibility. The balance of the Company's debt, and its progressive growth, depend for the payment on the same provisions; and the liquidation of our own current and bonded debts, together with the credit of our treasury, equally depend on the early liquidation of that which is due to the Company for the province of Owd. The dearth which has already shewn itself in some severe effects, will require the same co-operative aid to remedy so much of this calamity as may proceed from artificial, grounded on natural causes.

The Sics, who have been for some time forming in large bodies, and have avowed their design on the dominions of the Nabob Vizier, require early preparations to meet and repel them; and I have cause to believe that the presence of the executive member of this government, supposed to possess the command of all its powers and resources, would contribute much to discourage the attempt, and supercede the necessity of more substantial operations. Such are the objects of the proposed measure, and the necessity of its early execution is involved in the terms of each, nor is it possible to state them in others which shall exclude it. But to these I must add other considerations, derived from my own situation: First, a respect due to the constitutional rights of the individual members of the Board, and something due to my own credit, which impel me to bring the question before the Board, while every member of it now present may have an opportunity of giving his opinion upon it, and thereby also to guard myself against the imputation of seeking the advantage of carrying it by my own casting vote. Secondly, the desire which I have to possess the official assistance of Mr. David Anderson, whose weak state of health, derived from a late dangerous illness, has induced him to resolve on a voyage to Europe for his recovery: On intimating to him the possibility of my being called upon this service, and the indispensable call which I should in this case have for his, he cheerfully agreed to yield it to me, and to suspend the engagement of his passage until the latest period requiring it, that he might be at liberty to attend me.

I should be sorry to seem to depreciate the merit of others by an exclusive preference shewn to one; for I know many of the Company's servants, who are equal to any trusts that may be reposed in them; many, who in talents and integrity are entitled to receive the most public testimony of my esteem and approbation; but I have been long in official habits with Mr. Anderson; I know him; his disposition and manner of thinking agree with my own; and, in the peculiar line in which I should wish to employ him, there is not another to whom I could so confidently rely. I do not think it reasonable to keep him longer in suspense, and on that consideration alone, were there no other, I would entreat the Board to bring this point to an instant decision.

I repeat, that I do not solicit the service which I have offered to undertake, but simply offer it, with the most firm determination to hazard every interest that is dear to me in the prosecution of it, if it shall be the option of the Board to assign it to me; and I shall expect, in that event, to be invested with the full powers of my office, that is to say, such as I have especially committed to me on similar occasions.

If the Board shall not chuse to accept of my offer, I shall rest contented with the complete discharge of my duty in having both made it, and used my endeavours to render it effectual.

(Signed)

WARREN HASTINGS.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,  
Secy.

Minutes

*Minutes of Mr. Stables and Mr. Wheeler.*

The following minutes were received on the 23d ultimo from Mr. Wheeler and Mr. Stables, and communicated to the Governor General.

Mr. Stables,

21st January 1784.

I am sorry that I cannot accept of the Governor General's offer to proceed to Lucknow. In my opinion the executive member of government ought to remain at the presidency, and most particularly at this time, when we are in daily expectation of receiving the news of new arrangements from home.

A true Copy,

E. Hay,  
Secretary.

Mr. Wheeler,

21st January 1784.

In giving my opinion on the very important question brought forward in the Governor General's minute of yesterday, it is necessary for me to make a reference to what has passed before upon the subject.

On the 31st December 1783, the Board resolved to withdraw the residency from Lucknow, and to confirm the Governor General's acceptance of the responsibility and charge of affairs there, as explained in the minute agreed to and delivered in by Mr. Macpherson, Mr. Stables, and myself, on the same day.

Previous to the resolution the Governor General represented the necessity which he conceived there was for his repairing to Lucknow, for the purpose of accomplishing those plans which alone could place the Company's concerns in the Nabob's country in a more prosperous state. Against the acceptance of this many difficulties occurred, and in consequence it was, after much deliberation, mutually and unanimously agreed to decline the acceptance of the Governor General's tender of his personal service in the Nabob Vizier's country, and this part of the proposal ended in conversation, without being entered on our recorded debates; however, in candour, I must acknowledge, that no claim was preferred on the one hand to bring forward this question at a future day, nor on the other was any attempt made to preclude it, should the measure hereafter appear more strongly necessary.

But I flatter myself that in so short an interval as between the 31st December and 20th January, no motives more pressing, or reasons more urgent than those which had already been brought in argument, would have occurred to prompt the Governor General to the revival of a question of such magnitude as that of his departure from the presidency, at a time when his services here are so essentially required, and I consider myself the more warranted in this hope, because no advices can have arrived from Lucknow since the Nabob Vizier received the notification of the resolution of the Board to accept the offer made by himself and his minister of giving the security of bankers of known credit and responsibility for the payment of the balance due to the Company, and of the current demands of the year. It is true, the Governor General's visit to Lucknow is said to be the expressed wish of the Nabob Vizier, his minister, and all the principal persons of his family and court, and that the same will probably be declared in terms, and be connected with the engagement prescribed to him; if such be the Nabob Vizier's intention, a very short period of time will be sufficient to enable the Board to receive his requisition in form.

Great merit is certainly due to the Governor General for his zealous tender of his services on this occasion, which, he says, are at all times and in all cases primarily due to the most important and most urgent calls of this government; but in the present terms and circumstances of the question, I must beg leave to decline anticipating the necessity which may arise of accepting them in the way they were offered: For I think that the presence of the Governor General at our Board should never be dispensed with but on the most pressing and most important occasions; and I repeat, that I deem it at this particular juncture essentially requisite.

But

But should the Nabob Vizier, in his letters to this government, press the assistance of the Governor General's abilities in forming new arrangements for the internal government of his country, and the aid of his personal and official influence to carry them into execution, and should state it as a measure absolutely necessary to be adopted for the regulation of his finances, and the speedy liquidation of his debt to the company, connecting it also with his acceptance of the engagement prescribed to him; and if the Governor General shall be of opinion that his services can be more effectual, and generally beneficial to the interests of the Company, by their being employed in that country, than in the arduous and important duties annexed to his station here, I shall not shrink from the additional weight of labour and responsibility which will in that case devolve on me, but shall think myself acting up to the spirit of the minute delivered by Mr. Macpherson, Mr. Stables, and myself, in giving the Governor General this opportunity of acquitting himself of the responsibility he is hereby charged with in the affairs of the Nabob of Oude. This opinion I hope and trust will meet with the concurrence of the other members of the Board; and I venture to express a confidence in their hearty co-operation with me, during the Governor General's absence, in discharging the important duties which belong to our government.

A true Copy.

E. HAY,  
Secretary.

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*EXTRACT of the Secret Letter from Bengal, dated the 7th February 1784.*

Para. 21. **Y**OUR honourable court has already been made acquainted with the resolution which we thought it necessary to pass on the 31st of December, for withdrawing the residency from Lucknow, and accepting the offer made by his Excellency the Vizier and his minister, of the security of bankers of known credit and responsibility for the payment of the balance due from his Excellency to the Company, and other current expences, the Governor General being specially responsible for the propriety of the measure. Mr. Wombwell, our accountant at Lucknow, having been directed to receive such security from the Vizier, has lately transmitted to us a copy of the engagement entered into by two bankers, named Lela Butchrauge, and Faquir Chand; in which they make themselves answerable for the sum of Lucknow Sicca Rupees 1,03,84,420, being the balance due from his Excellency to the Company at the end of the last Fuffilee year, as well as for the subsidy and other current demands of the present year, according to a statement adjusted by Mr. Bristow. Part is to be paid in the course of the present year 1191, and the remainder in the course of the next year 1192 fuffilee. A copy of the engagement attends you, a number in the packet.

22. The Governor General having laid before us copies of a correspondence which passed between Mr. Wombwell and Mr. Bristow, by which it appears, that Mr. Bristow has hesitated to obey the order which directed his return to the presidency, in consequence of some doubts expressed to be primarily founded on the terms of that order, which he expresses to be "loose and indefinite," we have sent our peremptory commands to Mr. Bristow to leave Lucknow, and repair to the presidency immediately, directing, in like manner, the assistants of his office to do the same.

23. We have the honour to transmit to you a number in this dispatch, copy of a minute delivered by the Governor General, on the 20th of the last month; in which the Governor informs us of a letter he had received from his secretary, Major Palmer, at Lucknow, containing a very alarming representation of the disordered state of the Vizier's dominions, and urging the necessity of his repairing to Lucknow for the purpose of giving his personal and early assistance to the Nabob Vizier for their retrieval: And that from other Letters received from Lucknow upon the same subject, the Governor General understands that this was the expressed wish of the Nabob Vizier, his minister, and all the principal persons of his family and court; having also great reasons to believe, that as soon as the Nabob should have received the notification lately transmitted to him, of the last resolutions of the Board, he would declare the same wish in terms, and connect it with his acceptance of the engagement prescribed to him. The Governor General has therefore made us an early tender of his services, to proceed to Lucknow whenever he shall receive an invitation from the Nabob Vizier to that effect, for the purpose of regulating the Company's interest in that province, and affording the Nabob Vizier the like assistance for the regulation of his.

24. For

24. For the other important reasons which have induced the Governor General to make this offer, we beg leave to refer you to his minute, which we deem well deserving your attention. The minutes of the other members of the Board now at the presidency on this subject, are also enclosed numbers in this address; and by these you will observe, that the Governor General's tender of his services to repair to Lucknow, has been accepted on the following conditions; viz. that the Nabob Vizier shall, in his Letters to this Government, press the assistance of the Governor General's abilities in forming new arrangements for the internal management of his country, and the aid of his personal and official influence to carry them into execution, and state it as a measure absolutely necessary to be adopted for the regulation of his finances, and the speedy liquidation of his debt to the Company, connecting it also with the acceptance of the engagement prescribed to him; and that the Governor General shall be of opinion, that his services can be more effectual, and generally beneficial to the interests of the Company, by their being employed in that country, than in the arduous and important duties annexed to his station at the presidency.

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*Extract of the secret Letter from Bengal, dated the 16th February 1784*

Para. 10. We had the honour to inform you in our last advices, of a tender made on the 20th of last month, by the Honourable the Governor General, of his services to proceed to Lucknow whenever he shall receive an expected invitation from the Nabob Vizier to that effect, for the purpose of regulating the Company's interests in the province of Oude, and affording the Nabob Vizier the like assistance for the regulation of his. Our resolution was also communicated to you on the Governor General's offer.—A strong letter from his Excellency, and his minister Hyder Beg Cawn, has been lately received, and submitted to us by the Governor General, who has renewed the offer before made to us.—The Governor's minutes on this subject, and the papers accompanying them, are transmitted to you numbers in the packet, together with the minutes of the other members of the Board now here, to which we beg, leave particularly to refer you, and by which it will appear, that we have vested in the Governor General the powers and authorities which he has desired, to enable him to effect the purposes of his visit to his Excellency the Vizier's dominions.

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14th February 1784

**T**HE Governor General having this instant received letters from the Nabob Vizier, and his minister Hyder Beg Khaun, translations of which accompany this minute, the Governor General, in compliance with the pressing invitations contained in these letters, now renews the tender of his services in acceptance thereof, in the terms and for the purposes expressed in his minute of the 20th January.

The Governor General also, relying on the Board's acquiescence in the foregoing proposal, since in the event which has happened it has already been in fact agreed to, and wishing to preclude all intermediate delay, submits to the Board, for their approval, drafts of his public credentials, and of orders to be issued to the civil and military officers stationed behind the province of Bahar.

Not willing, on so short a notice, to require the members of the Board to give themselves the trouble of an immediate and formal meeting for the purpose of discussing the business of the preceding questions, nor the occasion requiring it for the reason already mentioned, the Governor General has directed the secretary to attend them with these papers, and requests that they will be pleased to deliver their opinions thereon in circulation.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,  
Secy.

Received February 14th 1784.

*From the Vizier to the Honourable Governor General.*

Usual introduction.

Your gracious letters, which you honoured me with from paternal kindness, have arrived. In what language can I express the favours and obligations you have conferred upon me? This country, my family, and myself, are all yours. Such obligations have bound me firmly in gratitude. I before rested entirely on your pleasure, but am now with heart and life attached to it, and will in no measure depart from it. From the favours conferred on me, your reputation will spread throughout all Indostan, for to the inhabitants of this country you have given new life.

My only desire now is a meeting with yourself: From the same motive as you have already shewn me so many favours, I entreat you will travel this way, and confer prosperity on my family and country, which are the same as your own. Your presence will be the cause of increase of my reputation, regulation to my affairs, and settlement of the country, to the mutual advantage of our Sircars, as whatever plans you may adopt will remain permanent, and be a source of credit during our lives.

As I am now ardently employed in the direction of affairs, and the measures for paying the Company's demands, I have no leisure, and am therefore excusable, otherwise I should come to visit you. In the manner you have already favoured me, confer the obligation of coming here to complete my happiness, as I am certain such regulations will proceed from it, as shall not leave room for any one hereafter to find fault. I have performed the conditions signified by you through Major Palmer, for the satisfaction of the Company, which will be known to you from his letters.

Concludes as usual.

A true Copy of the Translation.

E. Hay,  
Secy.

Received February 14th 1784

*From Hyder Beg Khan to the Honourable Governor General.*

Usual introduction.

How shall I express the obligations you have conferred upon his Highness and his subjects in general, since human language is too weak? Your fame will from them be spread throughout the world. His Highness is so obliged and grateful for your favours, as cannot be expressed; frequently saying, you have purchased him by generosity. This will be fully known to you from the letters of Major Palmer.

The only desire of his Highness now is, that you will, by coming here, bestow prosperity on his affairs. From your presence will spring stability to measures, and benefit of both Sirkars; as whatever you plan will remain firm for ever. I who am your servant, lifted from the dust by your hand, have received new life from the favours conferred upon his Highness, and regard paying my respects to your Excellency as necessary to my existence; but at this time your presence here is most advisable. The favours you have shewn can only be repaid by prayers for your prosperity. What was desired for the satisfaction of the Company has been performed, and shall be observed in future. Every point will be known to you from the letters of Major Palmer.

Concludes as usual.

A true Copy of the Translation.

E. Hay,  
Secy.

Governor

Governor General's Credentials.

Whereas it has been resolved in council, on the 31st December 1783, to withdraw the Residency at Lucknow, and to invest the Governor General with a special and separate charge of the Company's affairs and interests in the dominions of the Nabob Asoph ul Dowlah, on certain conditions therein expressed, which have been since fulfilled; and whereas the Board have agreed on the invitation of the Nabob Vizier, and on a tender made by the Governor General of his services in the acceptance thereof, that the Governor General shall proceed to Lucknow, for the purpose of assisting the Nabob Vizier in the means of discharging his engagements to the Company, and the regulation of his government; it is hereby resolved, That the Governor General shall be and is invested with full power and authority to concert and adjust with the Nabob Vizier the means of discharging his engagements to the Company, of restoring and securing the peace, safety, and order of his government, and of promoting the improvement of his revenue, and to support the Nabob Vizier with the authority of this government, in as full and ample manner as we can empower him by any act of the Parliament of Great Britain, or by any of the orders of the Honourable the Court of Directors, and to take all such measures as he the Governor General shall think necessary for the accomplishment of these ends: And for these purposes it is hereby agreed and resolved, that the Governor General shall be and is invested with the full power and authority of this Government (so far as we can legally delegate the same) over all the officers, civil and military, stationed or residing within the dominions of the Nabob Asoph ul Dowlah, and the province of Benares; but restricted in the exercise thereof to the dominions of the Nabob Asoph ul Dowlah and the province of Benares aforesaid, and to the purposes above recited.

Given in Fort William, under the seal of the Honourable Company, and under the Hands of the Governor General and Council, this                      day of                      in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four.

A true Copy,  
E. Hay,  
Secy.

14th February 1784.

The Governor General.

To obviate any misconstructions of the confidence with which I have long since mentioned my expectation, which is now arrived from the Nabob Vizier, I think it expedient to observe, that, independently of my intimate knowledge of the Nabob's general wish upon this subject, his particular desire of a visit from me at this time, and for the purposes of the actual occasion, has been repeatedly signified to me in many private letters from Lucknow, both from Major Palmer and others, long before I made the first tender of my services in accepting the invitation.

At the time that my letter, containing the notification of the resolution of the Board, passed on the 31st of December, arrived at Lucknow, the Nabob Vizier had quitted his capital, and was on an excursion of pleasure at a distance of an hundred and ten miles from it. By a paper of intelligence, delivered to me by his Vakeel Rajah Govindram, and in the possession of the secretary, I am informed, that such was his impatience to return, that he performed the journey in seven parts, or 21 hours, in a palanquin, and arrived at Lucknow on the 2d instant without attendants.

For further proofs of the little ground which existed for the use of any indirect means to influence the Nabob in soliciting my presence and assistance, I refer the Board to the accompanying letters, which I received the day before yesterday from Major Palmer and Mr. Wombwell, neither intended most assuredly for public record, nor was it without hesitation that I was induced to insert that of Mr. Wombwell. I could not deny myself the advantage of so strong a testimony, both of the point in question, and of the utter want of foundation for the assertion so often repeated by Mr. Bristow, that the Nabob was himself indifferent to the transactions which formed the multiplied complaints against the Resident, and that the whole were the fabrication of his minister without the participation of his will or inclination.

(Signed) W. HASTINGS.

A true Copy.  
E. Hay,  
Secy.

Letters

*Letters from Major Palmer and Mr. Wombwell to the Governor General.*

(Copy.)

My dear Sir,

Lucknow, 2d February 1784.

The Vizier arrived here yesterday, after travelling a considerable part of his journey by post. Mr. Wombwell and I paid our respects to him this morning. After perusing your letters, presented to him by that gentleman, he entered into discourse upon the different subjects of them, and gave the strongest and most unequivocal proof how deeply he was penetrated with a sense of your goodness, and the important benefits which you have obtained for him.—He earnestly wishes to see you, to make his grateful acknowledgments in person, to request your personal assistance in completing the generous work which you have begun, by establishing the mutual interests and reputation of both governments upon the most solid foundations. To-morrow he will tell you so himself; and if his writing is so expressive and as forcible as his speech and action, you will be convinced that there is no circumstance in life can give him greater happiness than to see you at his capital, and to prove his gratitude by an implicit and cheerful acquiescence in whatever measures you may recommend.

I am greatly concerned that the fine season for travelling will be nearly over before you can set out. The absence of the Vizier has caused an unlucky delay. I thought your visit a point of too much delicacy and importance to be settled whilst he was at a distance, as it would have been impossible for me to have known his real sentiments upon it; and I was determined to decline the invitation, if it should appear to be made only as a compliment.

I request, my dear Sir, that you will give me the information of your departure, that nothing may be wanting, either here or upon the road, for your accommodation. The Vizier has not yet intimated to Mr. Bristow his permission to depart, being desirous to avoid every appearance for his removal, and Mr. Bristow not having yet given in his accounts.

I am, with the greatest respect,

My dear Sir,

Your most devoted and affectionate  
humble Servant

(Copy.)

(Signed) W. PALMER.

Dear Sir,

The Nabob arrived last night; and this morning I had the honour of presenting your letters to him. Major Palmer will acquaint you with the expressions of his gratitude. You were his friend, the brother of his father.

They were not lost to me; for he acknowledged his obligations in tears.

Permit me to offer my congratulations to you on this happy event.

With the most sincere respect,

I am, dear Sir,

Your very faithful and obedient Servant,

The 2d February 1784,  
Lucknow.

(Signed) J. WOMBWELL.

True Copies.

E. Hay,  
Secy.

*Consultation, 18th February 1784.*

Received February 17th 1784.

The Nabob Vizier to the Governor General.

Usual introduction.

Before this I was entirely guided by your pleasure, but now am more so, than ever: What you desired regarding the securities for the Company's money has been done, and I have given the teeps of the merchants in addition to that security. My country and family, which are also yours, are ready in further pledge: Set then your mind perfectly at ease concerning the payment of the Company's demands, for my honour and reputation are bound with your own. I am with my heart and life ready to observe your wishes; therefore, whatever you shall judge adviseable, let me know, that I may comply with it. I can have no excuse in my duty and submission to yourself.

Concludes as usual.

A true Copy of the Translation.

E. H A Y,  
Secy.

The following request from the Governor General having been received and circulated yesterday, and agreed to, the letter which is enclosed after it is written to the Resident at Benares.

The Governor General acquaints the Board, that he may require part payment of the order on the treasury, for two lacks of rupees at Benares; he therefore requests that orders may be sent to Mr. Fowke, to furnish Major William Sands with such sums as he may demand on the Governor General's account, taking for the same his drafts in favour of the Governor General and Council on the sub-treasurer.

(Signed) W. HASTINGS,  
EDWD WHEELER,  
JOHN STABLES.

To Mr. Francis Fowke, Resident at Benares.

Sir,

We hereby direct that you furnish Major William Sands with such sums of money as he may require from you at Benares, on account of the Honourable the Governor General, taking for the same his drafts on the sub-treasurer, in favour of the Honourable the Governor General and Council.

Fort William,  
Secret Department,  
18th February 1784.

We are, &c.

Read the following Letter and its Enclosures from the Commander in Chief.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. &c.

Gentlemen,

I beg leave to lay before you copy of a letter which I have received from Colonel Ironside, together with the papers therein referred to. I also lay before you a copy of my answer to him on the occasion: Should the Board be of opinion that more precise instructions than those I have conveyed to him, are necessary for the guidance of his conduct, they will of course furnish him with such additional orders as they may deem suitable.

VOL. IV.

E e

With

With respect of the invasion of the Rohilcund now threatened by the Seiks, I presume Colonel Sir John Cumming, from whom I have yet received no advice on the subject, will take the necessary steps to repel, by ordering Colonel Knudson to advance with the detachment under his command from Bareilly, and reinforce him, if requisite, with troops sufficient to guard the gauts, a precaution which has usually been taken. Should they have collected so large a body as to make it expedient for Sir John to march with his whole force to oppose them, Colonel Ironside ought to be directed to march himself with his brigade, or to detach a part of it towards Furruckabad, to cover the country on that side.

By the statement of the troops in the service of Almas Ally Cawn, lately transmitted by the Resident to Colonel Morgan, and by the Colonel to me, it appeared that he had a force on foot in the Doab sufficient of itself to oppose any attempts of the Seiks, if his fidelity to the Nabob may be relied on at any rate. I think it cannot be apprehended that he will join them, or suffer them to ravage this country, of which he is collector.

Fort William,  
17th February 1784.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G<sup>r</sup> STIBBERT.

Cawnpore, 3d Feby. 1784.

To Major General Stibbert, Commander in Chief.

Sir,

I herewith transmit, for your information, copy of a paper of advice from Major Browne, sent to me by the Resident at the Vizier's court: I received it yesterday, accompanied by his desire of my opinion on the measures I deemed it expedient to follow.

A copy of my answer to him goes also enclosed. You will please, I hope, more immediately to notice that part wherein it is observed, that no instructions had been received by me from Colonel Morgan; nor had any yet been issued for my conduct in case of hostilities from the neighbouring powers, either by the Governor General and Council, or by yourself. It is my earnest wish to be favoured with them, that I always may act, as is my duty as well as my inclination, in entire correspondence with the views and intentions of my superiors: Should I not, however, be favoured with them in time for the present conjuncture, I shall do my best to repel every invasion of the dominions of the Vizier, in conformity to his Excellency's requisitions to me, of which, and every other material event, no occasion shall be omitted by me to yield you the earliest intelligence.

A true Copy.  
Wm. Scott,  
Secretary to the Commander in Chief.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) G. IRONSIDE,  
Coll.

COPY of a Letter from Major James Browne to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court; dated Delhy, the 25th January 1784.

I have the honour to enclose, for your perusal, the news-paper from the great camp of the Seiks now near Boonah Gaut, up to the 27th of Suffer. From this it appears that they still talk of crossing the Ganges, and have thought Suckertawl the fittest Gaut: I dare say our government and the Vizier's will be in a condition to repel them.

A true Transcript.  
(Signed) R. E. Roberts,  
Secry.

A true Copy.  
(Signed) J. NEAVE,  
Assistant to the Resident at the Vizier's Court.

A true Copy.  
Wm. Scott,  
Secretary to the Commander in Chief.

To

Cawnpore, 3d Feby. 1784.

To John Bristow, Esquire, Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Sir,

I have received your favour of the 31st of January, containing a transcript of intelligence from Major Browne of the 25th, and desiring my opinion on the measures expedient for me in consequence to pursue.

With no other given premises than a mere notice of the Sykes intention, it is not in nature for me to form a competent judgment on the subject: on so very material a one to offer an inconsiderable opinion, might probably be dangerous, certainly ineffectual. Before it is possible for any reason of mine to proceed to a single determination on the present case, it is requisite for me to be apprized of the following particulars:

First. In what degree of opposition or connection the Vizier stands with the Seikes.

Secondly. The power he possesses in aid of the English forces, to oppose them.

Thirdly. What force is now actually near the Gaut of Suckertawl, to guard that passage.

Fourthly. Whether the Vizier can rely on the affection and fidelity of his new Rohilcund subjects, on an enemy's invasion of that district

Fifthly. Whether, by the very last treaty struck with the Vizier (which I have never seen) there are any specific provinces guaranteed to him by our Government, beyond the frontier of which line the English troops cannot pass without an express order from the Governor General and Council.

Sixthly. In the event of taking the field, for what number of English troops the Vizier might make a requisition.

Seventhly. Whether the Vizier can supply a sufficient quantity of grain by water conveyance on the Ganges, for the consumption of a large army in Rohilcund or the Doab, for at least four months, which would be nearly the duration I presume of an ensuing campaign.

It is full as expedient also for you to be acquainted, that no instructions whatever regarding the conduct of the troops beyond the provinces were left with me by Colonel Morgan, nor have I yet received directions for my procedure in any one exigence from the Governor General and Council, or the Commander in Chief.

Provided, therefore, there be no instructions deposited with the Vizier, to be delivered to me on occasions similar to the present, I deem it indispensable for me to receive, if possible, the commands of the Honourable Board for my guidance, before any decisive operations are hazarded in a contingency of such eminent consideration.

If those, however, cannot be obtained in time, let me be but once truly ascertained of the particulars above recited, and honoured at the same time with his Excellency's written commands; I can then, instantly, as a soldier, decide what is to be done. In every case of this nature, I wish indeed to be considered in no other light.

I have not adverted to the magnitude of the Seiks army, because if it is uncommonly numerous, and the dearth in the western provinces severe as represented, it is scarcely possible they should long subsist where they are. much more attempting any enterprize in a region equally destitute.

I am, Sir, &c. &c.

(Signed)

G. IRONSIDE,

Colonel,

A true Copy.

Wm. Scott,

Secretary to the Commander in Chief.

To

To Colonel Ironside, commanding at Cawnpore.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 3d instant, enclosing a copy of a paper of intelligence sent to you by the Resident at the Vizier's court, as also a copy of your letter to Mr. Bristow, and acquainting me that no instructions had been left with you by Colonel Morgan, regarding the conduct of the troops beyond the provinces.

I believe no particular instructions were given by the Board to Colonel Morgan, at least none passed through me, further than in general terms, to comply with the requisitions which might be made to him from the Vizier, through the Resident, for troops for the protection of his country either against foreign or domestic enemies; and you of course are to observe the same line of conduct.

In case of invasion by a powerful enemy, or a general commotion in the country, to repel or suppress, to which the co-operation of all the forces in the Vizier's dominions might be requisite, you are, as senior officer, to take the command of the whole, in conformity to the instructions contained in a letter from the Honourable the Governor General and Council to Col. Morgan, a copy of which I enclose to you, as well as a copy of the letter to Col. Sir John Cummings, therein referred to.

The questions upon which you have required information from the Resident, will, I suppose, be answered by him; but that the Board may be apprized of your doubts upon certain particulars, I shall immediately submit to them your letter to me, and the papers that accompanied it.

Colonel Knudson, in a letter to me under date the 30th of January, acquainted me, that in consequence of intelligence he had received of a numerous body of Seiks being collected in the upper part of the Doab, with an intention, it was imagined, of entering into the Rohilcund between Nagul and Daranagur, he had applied to Colonel Sir John Cummings, for permission to advance to the banks of the Ganges, which I suppose Sir John Cummings will immediately direct him to do, and support him with more forces to repel these invaders, should it be necessary.— Besides the troops which the Nabob may have already in that province, it will be proper that he detach for its particular protection as large a body of horse as he can spare, which it would be proper you should intimate to the Resident.

I am, Sir,

Your very humble servant,

(Signed) G. STIBBERT.

Fort William,  
18th June, 1784.

A true Copy.  
Wm. Scott,  
Secretary.

The Secretary begs leave to acquaint the Board, that the Governor General, on reading the foregoing papers yesterday, desired it might be mentioned to the other members of the Board, that he approved of the instructions sent by the Commander in Chief to Colonel Ironside on the 16th instant; and is moreover of opinion, with the Commander in Chief, that if the Seiks should have collected so large a body as to make it expedient for Sir John Cummings to march with his whole force to oppose them, Colonel Ironside should be directed to march himself with his brigade, or to detach a part of it towards Furruckabad, to cover the country on that side.

The Board agree in opinion with the Governor General, and resolve, That the following Letters be written to the Commander in Chief, and Colonel Ironside.

Major General Giles Stibbert, Commander in Chief, &c.

Sir,

We have been honoured by the receipt of your letter, dated yesterday. We approve much of your instructions to Colonel Ironside; and agreeing with you in opinion, that if the Seiks should have

have collected so large a body as should make it expedient for Sir John Cummings to march with his whole force to oppose them, Colonel Ironside ought to be directed to march with his brigade, or detach a part of it, towards Furruckabad, to cover the country on that side, we have sent orders to Colonel Ironside to this effect; a copy of our letter to the Colonel is enclosed.

Fort William,  
Secret Department,  
18th Feb. 1784.

We are, &c.

---

Colonel Gilbert Ironside, commanding at Cawnpore.

Sir,

The Commander in Chief having lately laid before us a copy of a letter which he had received from you, under date the 3d instant, and of the papers therein referred to, as well as a copy of his instructions to you on the 16th instant, we think it right to express our entire approbation of the latter, and moreover to direct, that if the Seiks should have collected so large a body as should make it expedient for Sir John Cummings to march with his whole force to oppose them, you do yourself march with your brigade, or detach such part of it as you may think proper, towards Furruckabad, to cover the country on that side.

We are yet without advices from Sir John Cummings, with respect to the measures which he intended to pursue on the expected entrance of the Seiks into Rohilcund, but it is to be presumed that he has taken the necessary steps for repelling them, by ordering Colonel Knudson to advance with the detachment under his command from Bareilly, and that he will reinforce him, if requisite, with troops sufficient to guard the Gauts.

Fort William,  
Secret Department,  
18th Feb. 1784.

We are, &c.

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Read again the letter from Mr. Bristow, dated the 4th October, and entered on the proceedings of the last meeting.

The Board deeming the subject of this letter, and the papers accompanying it, of material importance,

Agreed to transmit copies of them to the Governor General, and to recommend them to his serious consideration.

The following is accordingly written to the Governor General.

Honourable Sir,

Having taken in consideration Mr. Bristow's letter to this Government of the 4th of October, which has been lately before us, and deeming it of material importance, we have the honour to transmit to you a copy of it, and of the papers enclosed in it, and beg leave to recommend the subjects of them, in regard to Almas Ally Cawn, to your particular attention and investigation, on your arrival in the dominions of his Excellency the Vizier.

Fort William,  
Secret Department,  
18th Feb. 1784.

We have, &c.

Read the following letters from Mr. Wombwell, Accomptant at Lucknow.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have the honour to transmit you copies of a letter from Mr. Bristow, and of the papers enclosed with it.

I have the honour, &c.

Lucknow,  
9th Feb. 1784.

(Signed) J. WOMBWELL,  
Accomptant.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose a general engagement from the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn to his Highness the Nabob Vizier, for Benares rupees 15,00,000.

Engagements payable in the Rubby of the year 1191, and the Kurreef 1192, for 5,00,000, being the balance remaining due on the general engagements for Benares rupees 15,00,000.

Lucknow,  
8th Feb. 1784.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW.

COPY of a Teep under the Seal of Fyzoola Cawn; dated the 16th of Rubbee ul Awul 1197 Hejeira.

The sum of fifteen lacks of rupees Sicca Rayje Kuttar, on account of the present of gratitude for the perpetual remission of the body of troops which is engaged in the treaty of the deceased Nawub Sujah ul Dowlah, and the Nawaub Vizier ul Mamaalek Asoph ud Dowlah, Asoph Jah Bahadre, which agreeably to the consent of the Nawaub Ameer ul Mamaalek Amud ul Dowlah, Governor General, through the Nawaub Atefaud ud Dowlah, Mr. William Palmer, Bahadre, has been agreed to, shall be paid conformably to the Paper of Kitts, and the former sum also, which on account of the remission of Toofeer, on the collections of the Jagheer Mahals, and the guarantee of the Honourable English Company, through Mr. Daniel Barwell, Bahadre, was paid to Roop Loll, Gomastah of Fackeer Chun Sahoo, inhabitant of Lucknow, in Rayje Kutteer, and Bareilly Sicca. If at any time any deficiency in the Sicca of that former sum should be proved, upon such proof the deficiency of batta shall be made up at the same rate. Written on the above date.

COPY of a Teep under the Seal of the Nawaub Fyzoola Cawn; dated the 16th Rubbee ul Awul 1197 Hejeira.

The sum of two lacks of rupees, of which the half is one lack of rupees, Sicca Rayje Kutteer, out of the balance of the present of gratitude on account of the perpetual remission of the stationing a body of troops at the time of war and hostilities, which is engaged in the treaty of the deceased Nawaub Sujah ul Dowlah, and the Nawaub Vizier ul Mamaalek, Asoph ul Dowlah, Asoph Tat Bahadre, for the Sircar of the said Nawaub, shall be paid at Rampoor in specie, in the collections of the Fuffil Rubbee 1191 Fuffullee, at the end of the month Jeit, and this teep redeemed. Written on the above date.

COPY of a Teep under the Seal of the Nawaub Fyzoola Cawn; dated the 16th Rubbee ul Awul 1197 Hejeira.

The sum of three lacks of rupees, of which the half is one lack and fifty thousand, on account of the balance of the present of gratitude for the perpetual remission of the stationing a body of troops at the time of war and hostilities, which is engaged in the treaty of the deceased Nawaub Sujah ul Dowlah, and the Nawaub Vizier ul Mamaalek Asoph ul Dowlah Asoph Jat, for the Sircar of the said Nawaub, shall be paid at Rampoor in specie, from the collections of the Fuffil Kurreef 1192 Fuffullee, at the end of the month of Cautic, and this teep redeemed.—Written on the above date.

The

The secretary lays before the board the following letter, and its enclosures, from Mr. Wombwell, Accountant at Lucknow.

To Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary,

Sir,

I beg you will do me the honour to lay before the board the copy of a letter I received this morning from Mr. Bristow, and a list of the papers that were delivered to me at the same time by his order. I have now transmitted to the Honourable the Governor General and Council the whole of our correspondence, and the copies, &c. of all the papers Mr. Bristow has thought proper to deliver me.

I have the honour, &c.

Lucknow,  
9th Feby. 1784.

(Signed) J. WOMBWELL,  
Accountant.

Sir,

I am to notify to you, that I have withdrawn the Residency, and agreeable to the orders of the Governor General and Council, commanding me to deliver over the accounts and necessary papers, I now must refer you to the records of your office, and the information I have already communicated to you.

I have the honour, &c.

Lucknow,  
8th Feby. 1784.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,  
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

LIST of Papers delivered to Mr. Wombwell, by John Bristow, Esquire.

English and Persian Accounts, the counterparts of which are lodged in the Huzzoory Duffer for 1183, 1184, and 1185.  
Treasury Vouchers for 1186.  
2d and 3d Brigade Vouchers for 1776 and 1777.  
Captain Bruce's Abstract Accounts Current Disbursements to his Troop for 1775, 1776, and 1777.  
Receipts of the Three Battalions and the Vizier's Body Guard, New Brigade, and Cavalry Brigade Receipts.  
Light Infantry Pay, Abstract Pay Bills, and Contingent Bills, from June to December 1778.  
Letters, Receipts, &c. of the Paymaster to the Detachment beyond the Jumna, 1188 and 1189.  
Letters, Receipts, &c. of the Paymaster 2d Brigade 1187, 1188, 1189.  
Letters, Receipts, &c. of the Cavalry Paymaster, 1188, and 1189.  
Do. Do. of the Paymaster Futtighur, 1188 and 1189.  
Do. Do. of the Paymaster General 1188.  
Returns of the Vizier's Arsenal.

AGREED, That a copy of the foregoing letter be transmitted to the Governor General.

Ordered, That the secretary do acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Bristow's letter, and acquaint him, that the Board, observing by the list of papers delivered over by him to Mr. Wombwell, that his public correspondence does not make a part of them, it is their pleasure that he transmit the same to Mr. Wombwell, that it may be lodged in Mr. Wombwell's office.

Read the following letter, and its enclosures, from Accountant General.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have now the honour to lay before you an estimate of the balance due from his Excellency the Nabob Asoph ul Dowlah to the Honourable Company, on the 31st December 1783, and a continuation

continuation of the same to the 1st February 1784, taken from the accounts of the late Resident at his court, for the month of January 1784, which were received subsequent to the formation of that estimate.

2. The Honourable Board will observe, that the balance due from the Nabob, as stated by this estimate, exceeds the amount at which it is stated by the account current of the Nabob, formed by the late Resident at his court, by the sum of current rupees 12,02,120. 9. 4. and will find every article of difference between the accounts of the Presidency and those of the Lucknow station exhibited in the estimate. To these however it may be necessary for me to advert more fully than was practicable in the formation of that estimate, to enable the Honourable Board to determine how far the articles of difference which it exhibits, should be either charged by the Accountant to that station to the Nabob's debit, in the account current of the next month, or be wrote off from those of the Presidency.

3. The amount of the first article, current rupees 1,83,020. 14. 9. must, I conceive, be carried to the Nabob's debit, as it arises from the Resident's having mistakingly carried to his credit current rupees 2,23,205. 3. 4. which he received back of the advances which he had made on account of the pay of the troops stationed for the defence of the Nabob's dominions situated beyond the line of guaranty; which differing very materially from the actual expence of those troops, the Resident should never have attempted to regulate the Nabob's accounts with the Company on this account, by what was advanced by him to the paymasters, but by the actual expence thereof, ascertained to him by the officers of the Presidency.

4. The second article of current rupees 2,94,015. 6. 1, being the difference between the actual expence of Abdul Bhehman's Cawn's Rissallah 1781-2 and its estimated expence of 1782-3 to the end of which they were paid up by Colonel Morgan, previous to their being permitted to return from Surat to Lucknow, and the amount of sundry payments made by the Resident, on account of this Rissallah, which he has not charged to the Nabob's debit; and the amount of those sums with which he has charged the Nabob on this account, must, I conceive, be carried to the Nabob's debit in the accounts of the Lucknow station, as being so much which they include less than what ought to have been included in them for this expence. I must however observe, that as the estimated expence of 1782-3 has been substituted in lieu of the actual expence, an adjustment may hereafter be necessary, to bring to account the difference. Why the Resident should make advances on this account, which he did not charge to the Nabob's debit, is a matter for which I cannot account.

5. The third article, of current rupees 76,792. 5. 8, which is the difference between what the Company have been charged on the account of the stipend of the Nabob Saadut Ally and the amount which the Resident has ultimately permitted to remain at the Nabob's debit on this account, must, I should conceive, be brought to account in the accounts of the Lucknow station, as so much which the Resident has included therein less than what they ought to have been charged with.

6. The fourth article, of current rupees 6,960 being the amount of two advances made by the Honourable the Governor-General to his Vackeel Rajah Govindram, will no doubt be readily admitted as an omission which has escaped the observation of the Resident, and as such brought to account in the accounts of the station.

7. How far the Honourable Board may be inclined to think it worth while to direct the amount of the 5th article, being current rupees 134. 15. 4, now to be charged to the Nabob's debit, in the accounts of the Lucknow station, is a matter which I have but to point out to their notice.

8. Had the Honourable Board's orders, of the 14th April 1783, been officially communicated to the Resident, I should conceive that the amount of the sixth article, being current rupees 1,99,077. 13. 4, would not at this time have been an article of difference between the accounts of the Lucknow station and those of the Presidency; but as the former have not yet been made to contain this article, it should now have place in them. I must however remark to the Honourable Board, that the Company's bonds, which were granted to Mr. Frazer, in discharge of the Vizier's bonds to him, bear an interest of 8 per cent. from the 22d March 1783; that in case the Board should think that, as the Honourable Company are paying at the rate of interest on a part of the Nabob's debt to them, the Nabob should be charged with the same, the Accountant of the Lucknow station may be apprized of their determination thereon, and act in conformity to it.

9. On the 24th July 1783, the Honourable Board was pleased to resolve, "that the Vizier's account should be debited for the actual loss proceeding from the deficiency between the amount received and the sum credited the Nabob, at the standard batta fixed by the table of assay." This order passed upon two accounts submitted to them by the Acting Accountant General, who exhibited in them the difference between the produce of sundry remittances made from Lucknow by the Residents, in bills of exchange drawn upon bankers in Calcutta, and what would have been produced, had the same sum of Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca rupees, as was charged in the accounts, been remitted in specie to Calcutta, and re-coined in the mint; but as it should seem that some part of this difference must have arisen from the Hoondian which the Shroffs charged for the remittance, which is a circumstance that seems to have escaped the attention of the Board, I think it incumbent upon me to offer this suggestion, which may possibly induce the Honourable Boards in their ultimate determination upon this matter, to require a different entry to be made of it than what the present orders admit of.

10. It appears from accompanying copy of an extract of general orders by Colonel Charles Morgan, dated 13th December 1784, that the horses which formerly belonged to the 1st regiment of cavalry, and which were the property of the Nabob Vizier, have been partly sold, and partly delivered to Abdul Rehman Cawn, who commanded the Candahar cavalry in the pay of the Nabob, which were on service with the Bombay detachment; but as the latest account of any yet received from the paymaster of that detachment is that for the month of February 1783, in none of which is any sum acknowledged by the paymaster as received on this account, I am unable to state what further credit should be given to his Excellency on this head, as the inability of ascertaining the number of horses which were with that regiment on the 3d December 1781, when the Nabob's cavalry were taken into the Honourable Company's service, prevented me from giving him the credit that was ordered to be given him by the Honourable Board on the 24th of June 1782, for the horses with this regiment, at the same time that I gave him credit for those that belonged to the other two regiments. There is, however, a sum of current rupees, 9,750. 15. 4, which is the amount of the 8th article of difference stated in the accompanying account, which arises from the Resident's not having given the Nabob that credit which the Military Paymaster General gave, for the amount at which the horses of those regiments were valued, and the stoppages that had been made from the pay of the whole on the Nabob's accounts, which was the fund from which his Excellency was to be reimbursed their original cost; this sum, I should conceive, ought to be carried to the Nabob's credit in the accounts of the Lucknow station.

11. I also beg leave to suggest to the Honourable Board the expediency of their determining upon the addition which should be made to the present subsidy for the two rissalahs of cavalry, one of which is to be stationed with the troops at Cawnpore, and the other with those at Futty Ghur, as the former mode of charging the exact expence of any particular corps, which can seldom be ascertained to the present time, occasions the necessity of subsequent correcting entries, which may not always be clearly comprehended by the Nabob, and may occasion a dissatisfaction, that would not occur in the payment of a definite sum.

12. The Honourable Board having on 5th January resolved that they would exert their influence with the Nabob Vizier for the payment of his bond to Mr. Frazer, for Sicca rupees 1,23,000, bearing an interest of 12 per cent. from 1st Shaborn, or 15th July 1782, and that the same be included in the estimate for the current year, I could wish to know, whether it is their intention that this sum should be carried to the Nabob's debit in his account current with the Honourable Company, and that Mr. Frazer should receive credit for that proportion of the amount which may be realized of the whole amount of the estimate, which this article bears to the whole.

13. On a suggestion of the circumstance adverted to, as explanatory of the 9th article to the Accountant of the Lucknow station, the necessity of the trifling correction which it will require, must immediately strike him.

14. When I am made acquainted with the Honourable Board's determination upon these points, I shall without delay prepare such instructions as the Accountant at Lucknow will require for the execution of their orders thereon.

Fort William,

24th February 1784.

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I have the honour, &c.

(Signed)

W. LARKINS,  
Accountant General.

G g

ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE of the Balance due from his Excellency the Nabob Afoph ul Dowlah to the Honourable Company, on the 31st December, 1783.

Balance due from his Excellency on 31st December 1783, as stated by the account current transmitted by the Resident at his Court	Oude Sa Ra	53,92,748 10 10	
Batta 11 per cent.		5,93,202 5 8	
			59,85,951 0 6
Add the following differences, which appear between the account of the Resident and those of the Presidency, which have rendered that balance less than it would have been stated at by the former, had they not existed.			
The actual expence of the troops employed for the defence of that part of his Excellency's dominions situated beyond the line of guaranty, from 30th April 1781 to their being withdrawn, amounted, as per the accounts thereof formed by the Military Paymaster General, to			
		32,16,446 12 10	
And the amount of Military and Ordnance stores, expended by those troops in that period, was stated by the Accountant to the Board of Ordnance, at			
		1,32,081 5 7	
		33,48,528 2 5	
The Resident has debited the Nabob on the above account, as follows.			
Amount of fundry advances made by him to the Paymasters of those troops, which he carried to his Excellency's Debit in 1781-2			
		16,26,498 4 6	
In 1782-3, when he brought to account the difference subsisting between his accounts & general books, on 1st September 1782			
		14,48,515 3 10	
		30,75,013 8 4	
Deduct			
The credit which he has given to his Excellency, for sums which he received back from the Paymasters in April 1782			
		10,439 10 1	
July			
		2,12,765 9 3	
		2,23,605 3 4	
Sum actually charged by the Resident to the Nabob's Debit on this account			
		28,51,808 5 0	
Batta 11 per cent.			
		3,13,698 14 8	
		31,65,507 3 8	
		1,83,020 14 0	

Brought forward,

59,85,951 0 6

The actual expence of Abdul Reham Cawn's Riffallah, between the 30th April 1781 and 1st May 1782, appears by the account thereof, formed by the Military Paymaster General, to have amounted to

3,56,413 4 1

And the Nabob's proportion of the loss by exchange on the whole expence of that corps, to 1st May 1782, is stated by the Military Paymaster General at

1,30,146 9 8

The estimated expence of that corps from 30th April 1782 to 1st May 1783, to which time they were paid up by Colonel Morgan, is as follows.

Pay at CRs 26,283.13.7, for 10 months

3,15,406 3 0

Estimated loss by exchange on ditto

30,702 10 2

3,46,108 13 2

The Resident has debited the Nabob on the above account as follows:

In 1781-2 - 3,30,000 0 0

In 1782-3, when he brought to account the difference subsisting between his accounts and the general book, on 1st September 1782

10,273 3 11

In 1783-4 - 3,00,000 0 0

O. S. R. - 6,40,273 3 11

Batta 11 per cent. - 70,430 0 11

7,10,703 4 10

To which must be added the amount of fundry payments made by the Resident, on account of this Riffallah, which he has not charged to the Nabob's debit

O. S. R. - 1,55,000 0 0

Batta 11 per cent. 17,050 0 0

1,72,050 0 0

2,94,015 6 1

Brought

Brought forward

59,85,951 0 6

The payments made on account of the Stipend of the Nabob Saudit Ally have been as follows:

In 1781-2	-	-	2,85,035	11	10
1782-3	-	-	2,85,035	10	0
1783-4 to 1st Jan. 1784	-	-	1,66,270	12	6
			7,36,342	2	4

The resident debited the Nabob on this account, as follows.

In September 1781	-	3,00,000	0	0
In August 1782	-	3,00,000	0	0
In September 1783	-	3,00,000	0	0
		9,00,000		

From which sum must be deducted the credit given to his Excellency by the resident on this account, on bringing to account the difference subsisting between his account and the general books on 1st Sept.

1782 22,068 14 5  
Do - Do 2,07,356 5 5

2,29,425 3 10

6,70,574 12 2

65,767 6 2

To which must be added the difference between what was charged to his Excellency's debit for the payment made by the resident at Benaris, on account of the stipend of the Nabob Myrza Saudit Ally in the year 1779-80 and 1780-81, which were made in Benaris Standard Gourshahy rupees, computed at 8. 3. 14—2. 2. 8. per cent. above current, but which being equal to Sonauts, or 11 per cent above current, are of equal value in account with Owde Sicca rupees; and as the resident, in bringing to account the difference which subsisted on 1st September 1782, between the accounts of the presidency and those of his office, adjusted the Nabob's account in conformity to the rate of Batta, he will have now to charge this difference to the Nabob's debit.

In 1779-80 the Resident at Benaris paid in this Acc <sup>t</sup> -	Rs	Sh	P	Computed Value in Sicca	Actual Values in CR
In 1780-81 -	1,25,000	0	0	1,35,291 9 8	1,38,750 0
	2,73,485	4	10	2,96,002 1 10	3,05,568 11

11,024 15 6

76,792 5 8

The resident has omitted to charge his Excellency for the amount paid on his account to Rajah Govindram by the Honourable the Governor General in

1781-2	-	-	-	3,480	0	0
1783-4, to 1 January 1784, for the Shaugord Peshwah of	-	-	-	-	-	-
1190	-	-	-	3,480	0	0
				6,960	0	0

Brought forward

59,85,951 — 6

The Resident has not debited the Nabob for the loss which arose on an advance made to Lieut. Polhill by the Honourable the Governor General, who charged for the same  
but who received back from Mr. Wombwell on this account no more than

15,113 4 9  
14,978 5 5

134 15 4

The Resident has not yet debited the Nabob for the amount of his Excellency's debt to Mr. James Fraser, which was ordered by the Honourable Board, on 14 April 1783, to be liquidated by the Company's Bond, being Lucknow Sicca rupees 1,89,305. 15, or Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca rupees  
Batta 11 per cent

1,79,304 5 3  
19,723 7 8

1,99,027, 13 1

The Resident has not yet debited the Nabob for the difference between the produce of the remittance made by him in bills of exchange, and that which would have been produced from an equal number of the Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca rupees received in the Mint at Calcutta, which, agreeable to the Honourable Board's orders of 24th July 1783, was to be carried to his Excellency's debit.

The Resident has charged for remittance by bills as follows:

In February 1782 - - - 18,94,331 12 9  
May - - - 9,47,165 14 5  
September - - - 27,63,342 7 3  
November - - - 6,15,657 13 5  
June 1783 - - - 16,48,068 10 6  
July - - - 2,19,742 7 10

Oude Sicca - 80,88,309 2 2

Which, as 100 Oude Sicca rupees would, by the report of the Assay and Mint masters, have produced in the Calcutta Mint

Decl.

Calcutta rupees 94,112,

or Ca Siccas - - 76,12,069. 7 11

Batta 16 per Ct 12,17,931 1 11

88,30,000 9 10

But which have produced no more than 83,78,081 3 2

4,51,919 6 8

12,11,870 13 7

71,97,821 14 1

Deduct.

The Military Paymaster General has given in credit for the amount received on the following account, as follows:

For horse stoppage made on account of the

Vizier in 1781 - - - 1,08,875 7 4

For 903 horses, the number alive, and mustered with the 2d and 3d regiment of Cavalry, on 3 Decr 1781, to the day on which the Honourable Board agreed to take them of the Vizier, at St rupees

250 each, Sonaut rupees 2,25,750, or 2,50,582 — —

3,59,457 7 4

The Resident, when he brought to account the difference subsisting between his accounts and the general books, on 1st Sept 1782, only credited the Nabob for this,

O. Sicca rupees - - - 3,15,050 14 5

Batta, 11 per cent. - - - 34,655 9 7

3,49,706 8 —

9,750 15 4

71,88,070 14 9

Brought forward

71,88,070 14 9

Add.

The Resident, in bringing to account the remainder of the difference which subsisted on 1st Sept. 1782, between the account of the Presidency and those of his office, by stating the amount of that part which had been carried to the Nabob's debit, in the account current for the first part of Sept. 1782, at 24,62,631. 15. 8. whereas the sum which was then actually charged to the Nabob's debit was 24,62,631. 5. 8, entered the same as much less than it ought to have been, as the other was stated at more than it was, which produces a difference of

Batta, 11 per Cent.

Current Rs. 71,88,071 9 10

N. B. This Estimate will not be found to correspond with the accounts furnished from this office on the 1st October 1782, and 3d July 1783, these accounts having been formed from documents which were afterwards rectified by the officers from whom they were received, agreeable to which rectification the general books of 1781-2 were adjusted, and in conformity to which adjustment this estimate has been drawn out.

Errors excepted.

Fort William,  
Accountant General's Office,  
the 24th February 1784.

(Signed)

W. LARKINS,

Acc<sup>t</sup> General.

CONTINUATION of the ESTIMATE of the Balance due from his Excellency the Nabob Asoph ul Dowlah to the Honourable Company, from the 31st December 1783 to the 1st February 1784.

Balance due from his Excellency on the 31st January, 1784,  
as stated by the account current transmitted by the Resident at his Court

Batta 10 per cent.

O. S. R. 54,02,165 13 11

5,94,238 3 11

59,96,404 1 10

Add.

The account of sundry differences enumerated, explained in the estimate of his Excellency's debt to the Honourable Company on the 31st December 1783

12,02,120 9 4

71,98,524 11 2

Add.

The Resident has not debited the Nabob for the payment which in January 1784 he charges for as made to Abdul Rehman Cawn on account of his Ruffullah

Batta 11 per cent.

40,000 0 0

4,400 0 0

44,400 0 0

Add.

The Resident has not debited the Nabob for the stipend of the Nabob Saudit Ally for November and December 1783

B. S. R.

Batta 11 per cent.

47,505 15 0

5,225 10 5

52,731 9 5

Current Rupees

72,93,656 4 7

Errors excepted.

(Signed)

W. LARKINS,

Acc<sup>t</sup> General.

Fort William,  
Accountant General's Office,  
the 24th February 1784.

General

## General Orders by Colonel Charles Morgan.

Head Quarters, Camp near Surat, 13th Dec. 1782.

Upon the reduction of the regiment taking place, Lieutenants Welsh and Ramsay are permitted to draught the number of horses necessary for forming their respective ruffallahs, for which they will be held responsible to the Honourable Company in the average purchase sum of 300 rupees for each horse, until the approbation of the Honourable the Supreme Council shall be obtained.

The Candahar Chief, Abdul Rehman Cawn, is permitted to draught such horses he may require for the service of the corps under his command after the ruffallahs are completed, at the rates allowed by the Nabob Vizier, of 250 rupees for each horse; the remaining horses of the 1st regiment of cavalry are ordered to be sold at public auction in the Cavalry Lines on the 20th instant, on account of the Honourable Company.

Attested to be a true copy of the Original.

Fort William,  
Accountant General's Office,  
24th Feb. 1784.

(Signed)

WM. LARKINS,  
Acct General.

The Accountant General being in attendance, is called in.

Ordered, That the amount of CRs 1,83,020. 14. 9, being the difference between the sum for which the late Resident has debited the Nabob Vizier, on account of the pay of the troops stationed for the defence of his Excellency's dominions, situated beyond the Line of Guarantee, and the actual expence of those troops, be carried to the Nabob's debit in the accounts of the Lucknow station.

Ordered, That the sum of CRs 2,94,015. 6. 3, being the difference between the actual expence of Abdul Retunan Cawn's rissalah in 1781-2, and its estimated expence for 1782-3, to the end of which it was paid up by Colonel Morgan, previous to its being permitted to return from Surat to Lucknow, and the amount of sundry payments made by the late Resident, on account of this Rissalah, which he has not charged to the Nabob's debits; and the amount of those sums with which he has charged the Nabob on this account, be carried to the debit of the Nabob Vizier.

Ordered, That the sum of CRs 76,792. 5. 6, which is the difference between what the Company have been charged on account of the stipend of the Nabob Saudit Ally, and the amount which the late Resident has ultimately permitted to remain at the Nabob's debit on this account, be carried to the debit of the Nabob Vizier.

Ordered, That the sum of CRs 6,960, being the amount of two advances made by the Honourable the Governor General to the Nabob's vakeel Rajah Gourdam, be carried to the Nabob's debit.

Ordered, That the sum of CRs 134. 15. 4, being the difference between the sum debited to the Nabob for the loss which arose on an advance made to Lieutenant Polhill by the Honourable the Governor General, and that paid back by Mr. Wombwell, on this account, be carried to the debit of the Vizier.

Ordered, That the sum of CRs 1,99,027. 13. 1, being the amount of the Vizier's debt to Mr. Frazer, which was ordered, on the 14th April last, to be liquidated by Company's bonds, be carried to the Vizier's debit as before, together with the interest due on it to the present time.

The Nabob having made his payments to the Resident, valuing the different species of rupees, agreeable to the table of assay fixed upon between this Government and his Excellency, the Board are of opinion, that his Excellency ought not to be charged with any loss that may have occurred in the remittance, and the re-coining of it; and resolve accordingly.

Resolved,

Resolved, That the sum of CRs 9,750. 15. 4, be carried to the Nabob's credit, by the Accountant at Lucknow, and that he do insert a memorandum on the creditor's side of the Nabob's account current, to denote that when it can be ascertained what sum has been received for the sale of the horses lately belonging to the first regiment of cavalry, his Excellency will have credit given him for the sale; and that he do in like manner insert a memorandum on the debtor's side of the Nabob's account, of the sum that will be to be charged to it for the amount that will be due on his Excellency's bond to Mr. Frazer, for the principal sum of Sa Rs 1,23,000, at the time when his Excellency assents to the payment of that bond.

Resolved also, That such a proportion of the sums monthly received on account of the assignments taken for the amount of the claims on his Excellency the Vizier, as the amount of Mr. Frazer's demand on the Nabob bears to the whole of those claims, be monthly carried to Mr. Frazer's credit, first by the Accountant to the Lucknow station, and afterwards by the Accountant General, when he enters up the account of that station in the Company's books; and that the sum so credited be endorsed off, as received, from the back of the Vizier's bond to Mr. Frazer.

The Board leave it to the Governor General to determine and settle with the Nabob Vizier what addition shall be made to the subsidy now payable by his Excellency for the two rissallahs of cavalry, which are to be stationed at Cawnpore and Futty Ghur.

Ordered, That the trifling sum of eleven annas one pice, which is the last article in the Accountant General's estimate, be inserted in the accounts of Lucknow, by the Accountant at that station.

It appearing, that the two articles of difference exhibited in the continuation of the Accountant General's estimate, viz. the sum of CRs 44,400, not debited to the Nabob by the late Resident, for the payment which in January 1784 he charged as made to Abdul Rehman Cawn, on account of his rissallah, and the sum of CRs 52,731.9.5, for which the Resident has not debited the Nabob on account of the stipend of the Nabob Saudit Ally, for November and December 1783, are owing to omissions of the Resident: Ordered, That they be carried to the Nabob's debit accordingly.

Ordered, That the Secretary do transmit to the Accountant General a copy of the foregoing Resolutions; and that the Accountant General do prepare therefrom a complete account of the balance due from the Vizier to the Company.

Ordered also, That the Accountant General do prepare and lay before the Board such instructions as the Accountant at Lucknow will require in consequence, and such instructions as he would recommend for Mr. Wombwell's observance, in the further execution of his office at that station.

Resolved, That the sum of Lucknow 16 Sun Sicca rupees 10,50,000, which is included in the last estimate of claims upon his Excellency the Vizier, to the end of the Fuffullee year 1191, for the army donation, be charged in the account current of the next month to the Nabob's debit as before; and that such a proportion of the sums monthly received on account of the assignments taken for the amount of these claims, as its amount bears to the whole of that estimate, be monthly carried to the credit of the claimants, for the late Nabob Vizier's donation to the army employed in the Rohilla campaign; and that the Accountant General do make the entries that will be required in the Honourable Company's general books in consequence of this resolution of the Board, which is formed in obedience to the orders of the Honourable Court of Directors of the 11th April 1781.

Ordered, That this Resolution be communicated to the Accountant General, and to the Accountant at Lucknow.

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#### EXTRACT of the Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 28th February 1784.

Par. 17. We have the honour to acquaint you that the Honourable the Governor General left the Presidency on the 17th instant to proceed to Lucknow.

18. We beg leave to refer you to our proceedings\*, for the perusal of a letter which we have received from the Accountant General, accompanying an extract of the balance due from the Vizier to the Company to the end of January last, and followed by our resolutions on the diffe-

\* Consultation 24th February.

rences which he has stated to exist between that estimate and the one formed by your late Resident at Lucknow. The Accountant General has been directed to form a complete account of the balance from our resolutions on his statement; and this will be communicated to you without delay, as soon as we receive it.

20. We beg leave to acquaint you that Mr. Bristow delivered over the papers of his office to Mr. Wombwell on the 8th instant, and that the Residency at Lucknow was withdrawn on that day.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 9th March, 1784.*

READ the following Letter from the Honourable the Governor General.

To Edward Wheler and John Stables, Esquires, &c. &c. &c.

Gentlemen,

I have been honoured with your letter of the 18th instant, enclosing Mr. Bristow's letter of the 4th of October, relative to Almas Ally Cawn, recommending the subject of it to my particular investigation, on my arrival in his Excellency the Vizier's dominions; to which I shall pay all possible attention: in the mean time I have the satisfaction to acquaint you, that on the receipt of a letter from me, Almas Ally Cawn immediately repaired to Lucknow, where he quietly demeans himself, which I consider as a presumptive refutation of all that has been laid to his charge.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your very obedient and faithful humble servant,

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

Boglepore,  
28th February 1784.

The Secretary lays before the Board the following Letter from the Accountant at Lucknow.

Sir,

I have the honour of your letter, enclosing an extract of the Honourable Board's proceedings on the 5th of last month, relating to a bond of the Nabob Vizier to Mr. Fraser.

Lucknow,  
19th Feb. 1784.

I have, &c.

J. WOMBWELL.

Edd. Hay, Esq. Secretary.

Read the following letter, and its enclosures, from the Accountant General.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

In obedience to your orders of the 24th ultimo, I have now the honour to lay before you such instructions as the Accountant at Lucknow will require in consequence of the Honourable Board's resolutions on my letter of that date, and those which I would beg leave to recommend for his observance, in the further execution of his office at that station. These are accompanied by a statement of the sums which the Accountant at Lucknow should carry to the debit and credit of his Excellency the Vizier, in his account current with the Honourable Company, for the month of February 1784, exclusive of those which were usually monthly included in the accounts current transmitted by the late Resident at the Vizier's Court.

I am concerned to be under the necessity of pointing out to the Honourable Board an omission that intruded itself into the estimate of the Nabob's debt to the Honourable Company on 31st December 1783; in the fourth article of which the batta of 11 per cent. on Benaris Sicca rupees 65,767. 6. 2, being current rupees 7,234. 6. 7, being omitted, that article was stated at current rupees 76,792. 5. 8. instead of current rupees 84,026. 12. 3, and the amount of the Nabob's debt at that period at 71,88,071. 9. 10; but which would, but for that error (as it should) have been stated at current rupees 71,95,306. 0. 5; I have, however, corrected this mistake in the accompanying statement, so that the Accountant at Lucknow will not have any occasion to notice it.

I would recommend to the Honourable Board to make an application to Colonel Charles Morgan for account of the sales of the horses which belonged to the 1st regiment of cavalry, which he appears to have disbanded in December 1782, and for the return of the whole, exhibiting the casualties that took place from the time of their leaving Futtu Ghur to their being disbanded, that the same may be delivered to the Nabob for his information. When I am informed of the amount which will be to be carried to his Excellency's credit on this account, I shall immediately draw out the account current between his Excellency and the Honourable Company, from the commencement of the present year, of our accounts to that time.

Fort William,  
Accountant General's Office,  
9th March 1784.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) WM LARKINS,  
Accountant General.

#### INSTRUCTIONS from the Accountant General to the Accountant at Lucknow.

1. The accountant at Lucknow should, in the accounts current of his Excellency the Vizier, for the month of February, debit the Nabob for the sums contained in the accompanying statement, to and by the different heads, under which they are severally stated.

2. The Honourable Board having resolved, that, as Company's Bonds, bearing an interest of 8 per cent. from 14th April 1783, have been granted in discharge of his Excellency's bonds to Mr. Frazer, that he should be charged with interest at that rate, on current rupees 1,99,027. 13. 1 from that day; the accountant at Lucknow should monthly debit the Nabob, for the interest due on the sum which monthly appears to remain undischarged of this debt, from giving an account thereof credit for such a proportion of the sum received by the resident of his successor, from the assignments taken at the commencement of the year, as the amount of this debt, which should be placed to the debit thereof, bears to the whole amount of these assignments.

3. The accountant at Lucknow should be particularly attentive to the Honourable Board's resolutions regarding the memorandums which they expect his accounts current should monthly exhibit, respecting the credit to be given him for the sale of the horses that belonged to the 1st regiment of cavalry, and of the amount that will be due on his Excellency's bond to Mr. Frazer, for Sicca rupees 1,23,000, and should keep a similar monthly account of the state of his Excellency's debt on that account, as I have pointed out in the preceding article.

4. When the Honourable the Governor General shall have determined upon the amount which is monthly to be charged to his Excellency's account for the two Rissallahs of cavalry, which are to be stationed at Cawnpore and Futtu Ghur, the accountant at Lucknow should charge the same from the time on which the same commenced to the end of the month in which it is brought to account, and should after that regularly monthly debit his Excellency for the same.

5. The accountant at Lucknow should also keep a similar account of the army donation, as I have pointed out as necessary to be kept of the sum due on account of his Excellency's bonds to Mr. Frazer, in charge of which Company's bonds have been granted, and state the amount which at the expiration of each month, appears to be due from his Excellency on that account.

6. To prevent the intrusion of errors, by the Lucknow accounts not corresponding with those of the presidency in the sums charged to his Excellency's debit for the stipend of the Nabob Mirza Saudit Ally, the accountant at Lucknow should monthly debit the Nabob for the same, in like manner as he debits him for the army subsidy, which, as the Benares Sicca rupees, in which it is paid are comparatively of equal value in account with the Fyzabad 16 Sun Siccas, if he regularly charges the Nabob monthly with 23,752. 15. 6. of the last-mentioned rupees, no difference can in future occur.

7. Should any sum have been paid on account of Abdul Rehman Cawn's Rissallah in the month of February, the accountant should charge the same to the Nabob's debit.

8. The forms by which the Lucknow accounts have for some time past been kept, affording every important useful article of information that can, in my opinion, be required of them, an adherence to these is all I can have to recommend, besides an equal attention to their being transmitted to the presidency with the least possible delay, as has lately been shewn to them: It may perhaps be necessary to observe, that the Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca rupees are valued in account at 11 per cent. above Current; and that in all the expressions of Current rupees made use of in

A. Ps. Decl Pts.

these instructions this rate is alluded to; consequently, that 90. 1. 5—297 of the former are equal to one hundred of the latter.

Fort William,  
Accountant Genl's Office,  
9th March 1784.

(Signed)

WM LARKINS,  
Acco<sup>t</sup> Genl.

STATE

Ordered, That a copy of the foregoing letter and account, as well as of the letter and estimates from the Accountant General, recorded in the last consultation, with the Board's resolutions thereon, be transmitted to the Governor General, with the following letter

Honourable Sir,

We have the honour to acknowledge our receipt of your letter of the 28th of last month, and are well pleased to hear that Almas Ally Cawn has repaired to Lucknow, and demeaned himself quietly to the Vizier's government.

We have also the honour to enclose a copy of a letter which we received from the Accountant General on the 24th of last month, and of the estimates enclosed in it, together with an extract from our proceedings on that day, N<sup>o</sup> 1, 2, 3, 4, in consequence of which the Accountant General has addressed us in the accompanying letter, N<sup>o</sup> 5, and laid before us the Vizier's account with the Company, and the instructions which he proposes for Mr. Wombwell, and to which we have agreed, N<sup>o</sup> 6, 7; our resolutions on these last papers attend you, N<sup>o</sup> 8.

Fort William,

Secret Department,

9th March, 1784.

We have the honour to be, &c.

Ordered, That the Accountant at Lucknow do debit and credit his Excellency the Vizier in his Excellency's account current for the month of February 1784, for the sums included in the Accountant General's statement delivered in this day; that a copy of the Accountant General's letter be also sent to him, and that he be directed to conform to the instructions proposed by the Accountant General for his guidance.

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EXTRACT of Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 15th March 1784.

Par. 19. We beg leave to refer you to our proceedings\* for a statement of the sums which the Accountant at Lucknow should carry to the debit and credit of his Excellency the Vizier, in his account current with the Honourable Company for the month of February 1784, exclusive of those which were usually monthly included in the account current transmitted by the late Resident at the Vizier's court, and for a copy of the Accountant General's letter on this subject.

20. We have transmitted a copy of these papers, and of our resolutions on them, as well as on those entered on our proceedings of 24th ult<sup>o</sup>, to the Honourable the Governor General.

21. We have the satisfaction to acquaint your Honourable Court with our having been advised by the Governor General, that Almas Ally Cawn, whose conduct had given suspicions of his good intentions towards his Excellency the Vizier, had in consequence of the receipt of a letter from the Governor General repaired immediately to Lucknow, where he quietly demeans himself to the Vizier's government.

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Consultation 11th May 1784.

Lucknow, 21st April 1784.

To Edward Wheeler, Esquire, &c. &c.

Gentlemen,

I Have the pleasure to acquaint you, that I have received from the Nabob Vizier two bills of exchange, drawn by Buckuraage and Beroondoss, on the house of Cashmeeri Mull and Coffinaut, in Calcutta, for two lacks and fifty thousand rupees each, payable to your order; the one in fifty-one days, and the other in eighty-one days after date; and I have sent them to the Accountant, as the proper official channel through which they should pass, with directions to him to transmit them by this day's dauk to the Board.

These

\* Consultation, 9 March.

I would recommend to the Honourable Board to make an application to Colonel Charles Morgan for account of the sales of the horses which belonged to the 1st regiment of cavalry, which he appears to have disbanded in December 1782, and for the return of the whole, exhibiting the casualties that took place from the time of their leaving Futtý Ghur to their being disbanded, that the same may be delivered to the Nabob for his information. When I am informed of the amount which will be to be carried to his Excellency's credit on this account, I shall immediately draw out the account current between his Excellency and the Honourable Company, from the commencement of the present year, of our accounts to that time.

Fort William,  
Accountant General's Office,  
9th March 1784.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) WM LARKINS,  
Accountant General.

#### INSTRUCTIONS from the Accountant General to the Accountant at Lucknow.

1. The accountant at Lucknow should, in the accounts current of his Excellency the Vizier, for the month of February, debit the Nabob for the sums contained in the accompanying statement, to and by the different heads, under which they are severally stated.
2. The Honourable Board having resolved, that, as Company's Bonds, bearing an interest of 8 per cent. from 14th April 1783, have been granted in discharge of his Excellency's bonds to Mr. Frazer, that he should be charged with interest at that rate, on current rupees 1,99,027. 13. 1 from that day; the accountant at Lucknow should monthly debit the Nabob, for the interest due on the sum which monthly appears to remain undischarged of this debt, from giving an account thereof credit for such a proportion of the sum received by the resident of his successor, from the assignments taken at the commencement of the year, as the amount of this debt, which should be placed to the debit thereof, bears to the whole amount of these assignments.
3. The accountant at Lucknow should be particularly attentive to the Honourable Board's resolutions regarding the memorandums which they expect his accounts current should monthly exhibit, respecting the credit to be given him for the sale of the horses that belonged to the 1st regiment of cavalry, and of the amount that will be due on his Excellency's bond to Mr. Frazer, for Sicca rupees 1,23,000, and should keep a similar monthly account of the state of his Excellency's debt on that account, as I have pointed out in the preceding article.
4. When the Honourable the Governor General shall have determined upon the amount which is monthly to be charged to his Excellency's account for the two Rissallahs of cavalry, which are to be stationed at Cawnpore and Futtý Ghur, the accountant at Lucknow should charge the same from the time on which the same commenced to the end of the month in which it is brought to account, and should after that regularly monthly debit his Excellency for the same.
5. The accountant at Lucknow should also keep a similar account of the army donation, as I have pointed out as necessary to be kept of the sum due on account of his Excellency's bonds to Mr. Frazer, in charge of which Company's bonds have been granted, and state the amount which at the expiration of each month, appears to be due from his Excellency on that account.
6. To prevent the intrusion of errors, by the Lucknow accounts not corresponding with those of the presidency in the sums charged to his Excellency's debit for the stipend of the Nabob Mirza Saudit Ally, the accountant at Lucknow should monthly debit the Nabob for the same, in like manner as he debits him for the army subsidy, which, as the Benares Sicca rupees, in which it is paid are comparatively of equal value in account with the Fyzabad 16 Sun Siccas, if he regularly charges the Nabob monthly with 23,752. 15. 6. of the last-mentioned rupees, no difference can in future occur.
7. Should any sum have been paid on account of Abdul Rehman Cawn's Rissallah in the month of February, the accountant should charge the same to the Nabob's debit.
8. The forms by which the Lucknow accounts have for some time past been kept, affording every important useful article of information that can, in my opinion, be required of them, an adherence to these is all I can have to recommend, besides an equal attention to their being transmitted to the presidency with the least possible delay, as has lately been shewn to them: It may perhaps be necessary to observe, that the Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca rupees are valued in account at 11 per cent. above Current; and that in all the expressions of Current rupees made use of in these instructions this rate is alluded to; consequently, that 90. 1. 5—297 of the former are equal to one hundred of the latter.

Fort William,  
Accountant Genl's Office,  
9th March 1784.

(Signed)

WM LARKINS,  
Acco<sup>t</sup> Genl.

STATE

Ordered, That a copy of the foregoing letter and account, as well as of the letter and estimates from the Accountant General, recorded in the last consultation, with the Board's resolutions thereon, be transmitted to the Governor General, with the following letter

Honourable Sir,

We have the honour to acknowledge our receipt of your letter of the 28th of last month, and are well pleased to hear that Almas Ally Cawn has repaired to Lucknow, and demeaned himself quietly to the Vizier's government.

We have also the honour to enclose a copy of a letter which we received from the Accountant General on the 24th of last month, and of the estimates enclosed in it, together with an extract from our proceedings on that day, N<sup>o</sup> 1, 2, 3, 4, in consequence of which the Accountant General has addressed us in the accompanying letter, N<sup>o</sup> 5, and laid before us the Vizier's account with the Company, and the instructions which he proposes for Mr. Wombwell, and to which we have agreed, N<sup>o</sup> 6, 7; our resolutions on these last papers attend you, N<sup>o</sup> 8.

Fort William,  
Secret Department,  
9th March, 1784.

We have the honour to be, &c.

Ordered, That the Accountant at Lucknow do debit and credit his Excellency the Vizier in his Excellency's account current for the month of February 1784, for the sums included in the Accountant General's statement delivered in this day; that a copy of the Accountant General's letter be also sent to him, and that he be directed to conform to the instructions proposed by the Accountant General for his guidance.

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EXTRACT of Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 15th March 1784.

Par. 19. We beg leave to refer you to our proceedings\* for a statement of the sums which the Accountant at Lucknow should carry to the debit and credit of his Excellency the Vizier, in his account current with the Honourable Company for the month of February 1784, exclusive of those which were usually monthly included in the account current transmitted by the late Resident at the Vizier's court, and for a copy of the Accountant General's letter on this subject.

20. We have transmitted a copy of these papers, and of our resolutions on them, as well as on those entered on our proceedings of 24th ult., to the Honourable the Governor General.

21. We have the satisfaction to acquaint your Honourable Court with our having been advised by the Governor General, that Almas Ally Cawn, whose conduct had given suspicions of his good intentions towards his Excellency the Vizier, had in consequence of the receipt of a letter from the Governor General repaired immediately to Lucknow, where he quietly demeans himself to the Vizier's government.

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*Consultation 11th May 1784.*

Lucknow, 21st April 1784.

To Edward Wheeler, Esquire, &c. &c.

Gentlemen,

I Have the pleasure to acquaint you, that I have received from the Nabob Vizier two bills of exchange, drawn by Buckurage and Beroondofs, on the house of Cashmeeri Mull and Coffinaut, in Calcutta, for two lacks and fifty thousand rupees each, payable to your order; the one in fifty-one days, and the other in eighty-one days after date; and I have sent them to the Accountant, as the proper official channel through which they should pass, with directions to him to transmit them by this day's dauk to the Board.

These

\* Consultation, 9 March.

These bills make a part of thirteen lacks, which Almas Ally Cawn has agreed to pay to his master in the present emergency, for the purpose of aiding him, and relieving the Company.

The acting minister has informed me, that he has a further sum of eight lacks ready, which I shall also deliver to the Accountant, with orders to pay it to you; and these, with the former sums, amounting all together to thirteen lacks, will be carried by him, in his official accounts, to the credit of the Nabob Vizier.

The exchange of the bills I have settled at 54 per cent. at which I mean to fix it, as the true and just standard at which it ought to be rated, and which it should never exceed. The former exchanges upon bills drawn at this place, I cannot revert to without expressing my astonishment at them. At the time of Messrs. Middleton and Johnson they were from 19 to 20 per cent, and they were afterwards reduced by Mr. Bristow (if I recollect right) to 16 per cent.

I desire your instructions with respect to the rest, and what more I may have to receive; and request, if you should have occasion to draw upon your treasury here, that the rate of exchange may not be more than 54 per cent.; and I earnestly recommend it to you, that if your other calls are not of so urgent a nature as to render it impossible, you will appropriate this remittance, together with what remains of the 13 lacks advanced by Almas Ally Cawn, as the first institution of a fund for the payment of the interest of your bonds, which had suffered something in their credit, and of course in their value, by the suspension of payment of the interest but a few months before my departure from Calcutta. Unless that debt has been since augmented, this supply will be more than sufficient for the payment of the interest for one complete year to come.

I expect in a few days to receive five lacks from Fyzoola Cawn, and other payments will follow, as the collections are able to furnish them, in which, however, I mean not to urge the minister to any acts of precipitation, as in the present calamitous state of the country it requires to be managed with a gentle hand.

The period of the ensuing rains, which I am patiently waiting for, will determine how far I may venture to promise. If there should be another drought similar to that which we have already experienced, it is not in the power of human wisdom to devise means for saving the country; but as it is not in the course of things that we should be again afflicted with such a dreadful misfortune, I have every reason to believe that I shall answer, in every respect, the complete ends of my deputation.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

P. S. The acting minister has delivered to me the following account of other sums advanced by the Nabob Vizier to the Company since the 31st January last, which I send merely for your satisfaction, as they yet want adjustment.

By Bukerage	—	—	—	—	4,77,000
Munfaram	--	—	—	—	2,00,000
Bukeraje Surat, bills	—	—	—	—	1,00,000
Almas Ally Cawn	—	—	—	—	8,00,000
Bills to Mr. Orr	—	—	—	—	2,00,000
Furruckabad assignment	—	—	—	—	1,00,000
					<hr/>
				Lucknow Siccas	19,77,000
					<hr/>

A true Copy.

E. Hay,  
Secy.

Lucknow, 22d April 1784

Edward Wheeler, Esquire, &c. Council, Fort William.

Gentlemen,

Mr. Wombwell this day addressed a letter to me, representing that the troops at Chunar being 2,20,000 rupees in arrears, and the Paymaster of that station having made repeated application,

tion, without effect, to the Resident at Benares, he therefore desired my permission to make the necessary supplies from this treasury; to which I assented, and gave him an authority in writing for that purpose.

As my instructions (though they may admit the general construction of a power to order the disposition of the money which may be unemployed in the Company's treasury at this place) do not specifically express it; and as it is very necessary that I should possess it, for the purpose of affording early relief to the different military stations of these provinces, by payment of money which would otherwise be unemployed, I request that you will grant me an express authority for that purpose.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,  
Secy.

The Board approve of the relief afforded by the Governor General to the troops at Chunar; and with respect to the powers which the Governor General desires, they are of opinion, that as the wants of cash at the Presidency are very urgent, every supply which the Governor can procure should be sent immediately to Calcutta.

EXTRACT of a Letter from the Governor General to the Court of Directors; dated  
Lucknow, 16 June 1784.

The ministers of the Vizier have for some time past been diligently employed in regulating the affairs of his government: It has been their grand object to retrench all expences which have proceeded from inattention or profusion, and to such establishments as are necessary, either for the support of his dignity, for the collection of the revenues, or for preserving the peace of the country; they have regulated the several departments of government, by making separate and distinct arrangements for the collection of the revenues, the controul of the household expences, the administration of justice, and the command and payment of the forces: And they are now employed in making the settlements with the farmers and officers of the revenue, for the year which is fast approaching; when this last work is finished, it will be in our power to fix the proportions of the Vizier's resources, which are to be applied to the expences of his government and household, and to the payment of his debt to the Company.

All the arrangements have been undertaken by the Vizier and his ministers at my suggestion, but they have been prosecuted almost entirely without my participation—the necessity of them was obvious; and though the reduction of expences is in every state an arduous and disagreeable task, yet the Vizier and his ministers have proceeded in it with a degree of alacrity which has exceeded my expectations. All that has been necessary for me to do has been to point out general plans, and to support the ministers by my presence in carrying them into execution, but without interfering myself in the detail. The productive seasons of the year being past, there is little revenue now drawn from the provinces, except what is collected from the Aumils in settling their accounts.

It will not therefore be in my power to add much to the list of sums received from the Vizier in liquidation of his debt, until the commencement of the new year, when the revenues arising from the Khureif harvest will begin to come in.

Some showers of rain have lately fallen, but the season of cultivation is not sufficiently advanced to enable me to form any presage regarding the future harvest. In the mean time, it is with the utmost concern that I inform you, that the effects of the extraordinary drought which has prevailed for two years past, are now felt in a very severe degree in the upper part of Hindostan. This province, although it has suffered less than those which are situated still more to the westward, has already felt the fatal influence of the general calamity, both in the loss of its population and the diminution of its revenue.

It will be perhaps sufficient to inform you that barley and nukoot, which form the chief articles of the sustenance of the lowest inhabitants of this part of India, sell at present at the rate of 15

seers. though in moderate seasons the average price of them is about a maund and a half the rupee; in the same proportion wheat, and all the other kinds of grain have risen in their price.

Under such circumstances, the Vizier's ministers have thought it absolutely necessary to allow considerable reductions in the revenues of the present year; and for this I have been obliged to give my concurrence, although in so doing I admitted a proportionable diminution of those resources from which the Company's claims on his Excellency must be realized: but as this diminution is merely of a temporary nature, I flatter myself it will not affect the expectations which I have given you for the ensuing season. Indeed, if the season of the approaching rains should prove favourable, I assure you that they will be fulfilled.

In the arrangements which are now taking place in the internal administration of the Vizier's dominions, I had equally in view the improvement of his finances, and the solidity and security of his government; and, considered in this last point of view, their effects, though they may not be so immediately apparent, will prove of the utmost consequence to the permanency and tranquillity of our own provinces; for while we are at peace with the powers of Europe, it is only in this quarter that your possessions and the government of Bengal are vulnerable.

Had this country continued in the state in which I found it, subject to a divided government, regulated by no fixed system, and with its rulers and officers in a state of mutual distrust, the slightest shock from a foreign hand, or even an accidental internal commotion, might have thrown the whole into confusion, and produced the most fatal consequences—happily we have found time to remedy this evil. The province enjoys at present a state of complete repose—I have no immediate apprehensions of its being disturbed by the designs of any of the neighbouring powers.

I have the pleasure to inform you that, in consequence of permission which I obtained from the Board at Fort William, I lately sent from this place a remittance of five lacks of Surat rupees to the Governor and Council of Bombay. This will prove a seasonable relief to their present exigencies, which by the latest intelligence from thence seem to have been very pressing.

It will be a satisfaction to you, to know that the brigade at Cawnpore, the detachment commanded by Colonel Sir John Cummings at Futtygur, and the military station at Chunar, are completely paid up to the present time. The long arrears also of the detachment lately arrived from Surat have been discharged from this treasury. This has given effect to the orders for the reduction of that detachment, and to the extraordinary and heavy expence attending it.

You will have observed, from the records transmitted to you from Fort William, that several consultations have, at times, been held on the subject of differences which had taken place in the account current betwixt the Vizier and the Honourable Company, as it appeared in your General Books, and as it was stated by the Vizier and the Resident.

Many of these differences originated some years ago, and they have gradually accumulated, till they at length amounted to a very considerable sum.

An accurate statement of the several articles, with full and clear expositions, being drawn out by your Accountant General, was soon after my arrival here transmitted to me by the Gentlemen of the Council, with their own opinions and resolutions on each, and the object has accordingly employed a considerable share of my attention.

I have now the pleasure to inform you, that the Vizier and his ministers, on receiving a satisfactory explanation of each article, have agreed to a complete adjustment; and to obviate the possibility of further disputes, the Vizier and myself have agreed to affix our respective signatures to an account current brought up to the last day of May; in which is inserted, to the Vizier's debt, the sum of rupees 19,00,441. 11. 5, being the amount of differences stated by your Accountant General, in conformity to the resolutions of the Board. The accounts of the Vizier therefore now correspond with your General Books, and I have given such instructions to Mr. Wombwell, the Accountant of this place, as will, I hope, prevent their ever differing materially again.

By adding this sum to the balance formerly admitted by the Vizier, I have in fact substantiated a considerable claim, which if left much longer in its former state might have only proved a cause of disputes. At the same time I think it necessary to remark, that by thus increasing the Nabob's balance, I have made a proportionate addition to the difficulty of the work which I am now engaged in, of securing the liquidation of his Excellency's debt to you from the resources of the ensuing year.

EXTRACT

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 22d June, 1784.*

The Secretary lays before the Board the following letter from the Accountant at Lucknow.

Sir,

I beg you will acquaint the Honourable Board, that the Vizier's ministers have consented to the accounts as stated by the Accountant General; and I hope to be able, in three or four days, to transmit to the Honourable Board the accounts completed to the 31st of May; I have only waited for the minister's consent to the statement of the differences, to forward the accounts.

Lucknow,  
5th June 1784.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) J. WOMBWELL, Accn.

*EXTRACT of Secret Letter from Bengal; dated 5th July 1784.*

Para. 27. The Governor General, in a letter dated the 21st of April, advised us that he had ordered two bills of exchange, for rupees 2,50,000 each, to be remitted to us, the one payable in 51 days, and the other in 81 days after date. He informed us that they were in the part of the sum of thirteen lacs which Almas Ally Cawn had agreed to pay to his master, in the present emergency, for the purpose of aiding him, and relieving the Company. These bills were drawn at the Exchange of five and a half per cent; and the Governor General acquainted us, that he meant to fix the exchange at that rate in future, expressing at the same time his astonishment at the former exchanges upon bills drawn from Lucknow, which were, at the time of Messrs. Middleton and Johnson, from 19 to 20 per cent, and reduced by Mr. Bristow to 16 per cent. The Governor General also recommended that the sum which he had remitted should be appropriated to the discharge of the interest due on the Company's bonds. By a report from the Accountant General we learnt that the amount then due on this account was current rupees 4,54,785. 14. 5.

28. In a letter under date the 22d of April, the Governor General acquainted us that he had permitted the Paymaster to appropriate the sum of rupees 2,20,000 to the discharge of arrears due to the troops at Chunar; and requested our authority for the disposal of the cash in the treasury at Lucknow.

73. The Governor General transmitted to us, under date the 14th of June, the circumstances of a claim which his Excellency the Vizier had on Jemael Beg, late Aumil of Illahabad, who had come down with Mr. Bristow to Calcutta. We communicated them to Jemael Beg, and required his reply.

76. Your Accountant at Lucknow has informed us, under date the 5th June, that the Vizier's ministers had consented to the accounts between his Excellency and the Company, as stated by the Accountant General, and communicated to your Honourable Court on the 15th March.

*Conf. 6th July 1784.*

Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary.

I have the honour to transmit to you sundry accounts, a list of which I enclose, and a copy of a letter I have this day received from the Honourable the Governor General. I am to request that you will lay these papers before the Honourable Board. The Honourable the Governor General will make known to the Board the cause of the delay.

I am, with respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

and most humble servant,

(Signed) J. WOMBWELL,

Lucknow,  
21st of June 1784.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,  
Secy.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT of Sums carried to the Debit of his Excellency the Nabob Vizier in the month of February 1784, by the Honourable Board's orders of the 9th March 1784.

The actual expence of the troops employed for the defence of his Excellency's dominions, situated beyond the Line of Guarantee, from the 30th of April 1781 to the time of their being withdrawn, including the expenditure of military stores, amounted to - - - - -	- -	30,16,692 0 5	
Deduct.			
His Excellency has been debited by the Resident, on this account, as follows:			
For fundry advances made to the Paymasters of those troops in 1781-2 - - - -	16,26,498 4 6		
On bringing to account the differences subsisting between the general books and the account of his office, the 1st of September 1782 - - - - -	14,48,515 3 10		
	30,75,013 8 4		
From which is to be deducted the amount credited his Excellency for sums received back from the Paymasters in April and July 1782 - - - - -	2,23,205 3 4	28,51,808 5 0	
			1,64,883 11 5
The actual expence of Abdul Rheman Cawn's Ruffalah, from the 30th April 1781 to 1st May 1782, was - - - - -	3,21,093 0 3		
His Excellency's proportion of the loss of exchange upon the whole of the expence of the corps to the 1st May 1782, is -	1,17,249 3 3		
	4,38,342 3 6		
The estimated expence of the corps, from the 30th April 1782 to 1st May 1783, to which time they were paid up by Colonel Charles Morgan; but as no accounts have been received from the Paymaster to the detachment, of the sum actually paid, it is estimated at C <sup>r</sup> s 3,15,406 3 0			
Estimated loss of exchange - - - - -	30,702 10 2		
	3,46,108 13 2, or	3,11,809 12 0	
	7,50,151 15 6		
To which is to be added the amount short debited his Excellency, on account of the expence of the corps to the 30th April, 1781, on bringing to account the differences between the general books and the Resident's accounts the 1st September, 1782 - - - - -	10,273 3 11		
The Resident omitted to charge the Nabob for the money he paid to Abdul Rheman Cawn, in 1190 - - - - -	1,00,000		
1191 - - - - -	95,000		
	1,95,000 0 0		
Deduct.			
His Excellency has been debited, in 1188 -	3,30,000 0 0	9,55,425 3 5	
in 1190 -	3,00,000 0 0		
		6,30,000 0 0	
			325,425 3 5
Carried over Fyzd 16th Sn Sa Rs -			4,90,308 14 10

Amount brought over	—	—	—	—	4,90,308 14 10
Mirza Saudet Ally's stipend.					
Mirza Saudet Ally has been paid by the Honourable Company as follows:					
In 1778-9	-	-	1,89,874	7 4	
1779-80	-	-	2,73,546	7 10	
1780-81	-	-	2,66,668	9 2	
1781-82	-	-	2,85,035	11 10	
1782-83	-	-	2,85,035	10 0	
1783 to 1st March 1784	-	-	2,61,288	10 6	
Error in calculating the amount paid by the Resident at Benares, in 1779-80 and 1780-81, at a wrong batta	-	-	9,932	6 6	
His Excellency has been debited by the Resident on this account, in the year	1187	-	2,84,149	12 0	
	1188	-	3,00,000	0 0	
	1189	-	3,00,000	0 0	
	1190	-	3,00,000	0 0	
On bringing to account the difference between the general books and the Resident's accounts, the 1st September 1782.			2,16,514	8 2	
					15,71,375 15 2
Payments made to Rajah Govind Ram.					
His Excellency has not been debited for the payments made to Rajah Govind Ram by the Governor General in	1781-2	-	—	—	
	1782-3	-	—	—	
					3,135 2 2
					3,135 2 2
					6,270 4 4
Mr. James Frazer's Bond.					
The Nabob has not been debited with his bond to Mr. Frazer, which the Honourable Board, on the 14th April 1783, ordered to be liquidated by Company's bonds, bearing interest 8 per cent. per annum.					
Bond Lw Sa Rs 1,89,305. 15; or	-	-	—	—	
Interest from the 13th April 1783 to 1st March 1784, 10 months and 17 days, at 8 per cent.	-	-	—	—	
					1,79,304 5 5
					12,630 15 9
					1,91,935 5 2
Short debited his Excellency on bringing to account the differences subsisting between the general books, and the Resident's accounts, the 1st September 1782.			—	—	
					0 10 0
Army donation.					
The Honourable Board, by their orders of the 24th February 1784, direct that the late Nabob Vizier's donation to the army should be carried to his Excellency's debit	-	-	—	—	
					10,50,000 0 0
Carried forward Fyza 16th Sn Sa Rs	—	—	—	—	
L 1					19,09,226 13 0
					Amount

Amount brought over	—	—	—	—	19,09,226 13 —
Deduct.					
The amount of horse stoppages, made on account of the Nabob, in the year 1781	98,086	—	—		
The amount of 903 horses in the 2d and 3d regiments of cavalry, on the 3d December 1781, when the Honourable Board agreed to take them from his Excellency at Sa R: 250 ea.	—	—	2,25,750	—	
				3,23,836	—
On bringing to account the differences between the general books and the resident's accounts, the 1st September 1782, his Excellency on this account was only credited for	—	—	—	3,15,050 14 5	
					8,785 1 7
Amount carried to his Excellency's debit in February 1784, Fyzd 16th Sn Sa R:					19,00,441 11 5

Lucknow, 1st June 1784.

Errors excepted.

(Signed)

J. WOMBWELL,  
Acct.

A true Copy,

E. Hay,

Secy.

To the Nabob Vizier.		By Fort William Presidency.	
Received from Hyder Beg Cawn	L <sup>w</sup> S <sup>a</sup> R <sup>s</sup> 4,38,558 14 0	Paid the Paymaster General	4,17,275 10 8
Deduct Batta 5. 9. 3. per C.	23,170 13 6	Paid Col <sup>l</sup> Cha. Morgan, commanding the Bombay detachment	96,674 9 3
	4,15,388 0 6		5,13,950 3 11
Received on account the Tuncaw on the Sezawel of Ferozkabad, sent by Mr. Bristow to Mr. Melvill, Paymaster to Col <sup>l</sup> Sir J. Cummings's Detachment in Jan'y 1784, received by Mr. Melvill F <sup>d</sup> R <sup>s</sup> 50,000 0 0			
Deduct Batta 1 8. 6. per C.	754 1 2		
	49,245 14 10		
Cred <sup>d</sup> the Vizier by Mr. Bristow, L <sup>w</sup> S <sup>a</sup> R <sup>s</sup> 50,000 0 0			
Deduct Batta, 5. 9. 3. per C.	2,641 11 4		
	47,358 4 8		
Received from Almas Ally Cawn by Col <sup>l</sup> Chas Morgan — F <sup>d</sup> R <sup>s</sup> 24,600 0 0			
Deduct Batta 1. 8. 6. per C.	371 0 0		
	24,229 0 0		
Etawa H. R <sup>s</sup> 75,400 0 0			
Deduct Batta 4. 1. 3. per C.	2,954 6 9		
	72,445 9 3		
	96,674 9 3		
	5,13,950 3 11		
	5,13,950 3 11		
	Fyz <sup>d</sup> 16 Sun Sicca Rup <sup>s</sup> —		
	Fyz <sup>d</sup> 16 Sun Sicca R <sup>s</sup> —		
	5,13,950 3 11		

Lucknow, 1st of June, 1784, or 13th Jeite Sud, 1191.

Errors excepted.

(Signed) J. WOMB WELL,  
Acct.A true Copy.  
E. Hay,  
Secy.

NABOB VIZIER in Account with the Honourable Governor General and Council, from the 1st to the 29th February 1784, or from the 10 Maug Suddie to 9th Phaugin Sud. 1191.

Dr

Cr

To Balance due the 31st of January 1784, or 9 Maug Sud. 1191, as per Mr. Briffow's account	—	51,02,165 13 11	By amount received as per the Accountant's treasury account	—	5,13,950 3 11
The amount of sundry articles not carried to his Excellency's debit	19,00,441 11 5		By balance due the 29th February 1784, or 9 Phaugin Sud. 1191	—	72,18,657 5 5
To Army Subsidy.					
For one brigade, according to the old establishment	2,60,000 —				
For one regiment stationed at Lucknow, according to the new establishment	25,000, —				
For five regiments under Col <sup>d</sup> Sir J. Cumming, at Rs 25,000 per Regt per Mo.	1,25,000 —				
For one company of artillery	20,000 —				
	4,30,000 —	23,30,441 11 5			
	—	77,32,607 9 4			
Fyzd 16 Sun Sicca rupees	—		Fyzd 16 Sun Sicca rupees	—	77,32,607 9 4

Lucknow, 1st June 1784, or 13 Jeite Sud. 1911.

Errors excepted,  
(Signed)

J. WOMBWELL,  
Acct.

A true Copy.  
E. Hay,  
Secy.

TREASURY ACCOUNT of the Accountant at Lucknow, from the 1st to the 31st of March 1784, or from the 10th of Phaungun Suddie to the 10 Cheyte Sud. 1191.

Dr

VOL. IV

Cr

To the Nabob Vizier.			
Received from Hyder Beg Cawn	—	L <sup>w</sup> Sa Rs 4,61,494 5 3	
Deb: batta, 5. 9. 3 per c.	24,382 10 3		
		4,37,111 11 0	
20 Sun Cor: rup <sup>s</sup>	61,750 0 0		
Deduct batta, 18. 3. 5 per c.	9,514 0 6		
		52,235 15 6	
		4,89,347 10 6	
Fyzd 16 Sun Sicca rup <sup>s</sup>	—		
		4,89,347 10 6	
By Fort William Presidency.			
Paid the Paymaster General	—		
		4,89,347 10 6	
			4,89,347 10 6

[ 137 ]

Lucknow, 1st of June 1784, or 13 Jeite Sud. 1191.

Errors excepted.

(Signed) J. WOMB W E L L,  
Acct.

A true Copy.  
E. Hay,  
Secy.

M m

NABOB VIZIER in Account with the Honourable Governor General and Council, from the 1st to the 31st of March, or from the 10th of Phaungun Suddie to the 10th of Cheyte Suddie 1191.

		Cr	
To balance due the 29th Feb. or 9th Phaungun Sud. 1191	—	72,18,657	5 5
To Army Subsidy.			
For one brigade, according to old establishment	2,60,000	0	0
For one regiment stationed at Lucknow, according to the new establishment	25,000	0	0
For five regiments of sepoy and one company of artillery, under Col. Cumming	1,45,000	0	0
To Mirza Sandit Ally's stipend for the month of March, at the rate of 3,00,000 per ann.	—	4,30,000	0 0
To interest on Mr. Frazer's bond, one month on 1,91,935. 5. 2, at 8 per cent. per ann. being the rate at which the Honourable Company have granted their bonds to Mr. Frazer	—	25,000	0 0
	—	1,279	9 0
	—	4,56,279	9 0
Fyza 16 Sun Sicca Rupees	—	76,74,936	14 5
Amount of Mr. Frazer's bond	—	1,91,935	5 2
Deduct.	—	13,011	5 2
The proportion of the receipts in this month, that the amount of the bond bears to the balance due by the Nabob 29th February	—	—	—
Remains due on Mr. Frazer's bond the 31st March	—	1,78,924	0 0
Amount of army donation	—	10,50,000	0 0
Deduct.	—	71,178	0 0
The proportion of the receipts in this month that the amount of the donation bears to the balance due by the Vizier the 29th Feb.	—	—	—
Remains due on account the army donation the 31st March	—	9,78,822	0 0
By amount received. as per the Accountant's treasury account			
By balance due 31st March 1784, or 10 Cheyte Suddie 1191	—	4,89,347	10 6
	—	71,85,589	3 11
	—	76,74,936	14 5
Fyza 16 Sun Sicca Rupees	—	—	—

When the amount received for the sale of horses lately belonging to the 1st regiment of cavalry can be ascertained, his Excellency will receive credit for the same.

Lucknow, 1st June 1784, or 13th of the Jeite Suddie 1191.

A true Copy.  
E. Hay, Secy.  
(Signed) J. WOMB WELL,  
Accountt.





TREASURY ACCOUNT of the Accountant at Lucknow, from the 1st to the 31st May 1784, from the 12 Byfaak Suddie to 12th Jate Suddie 1191. Cr.

<p>To balance remaining in the treasury the 30th April 1784, or 11th of Byfaak Suddie 1191</p> <p>To the Nabob Vizier.</p> <p>Received from Hyder Beg Cawn, by Major Sands, Paymaster Governor General's detachment</p> <p>For the Batta of 5. 9. 3 per cent. on the sum of Fyzabad, of 6. 5. 5 Rs 4,70,296. 3. 3. the balance remaining in the treasury the 31st May 1784; the Lucknow Sicca 1 Caube rupee being, by the orders of the Governor General, to be received at the same rate as the Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca rupees</p>	<p>15,50,458 6 —</p> <p>1,05,136 6 —</p> <p>26,233 11 3</p>	<p>By Fort William Presidency.</p> <p>Paid the Paymaster General</p> <p>Remitted Lieut Prole, Depy Paymaster late Bombay Dett</p> <p>Paid Mr. Scott, in part of the Honourable Boards orders in his favour L<sup>w</sup> S<sup>a</sup> R<sup>s</sup> 1,70,000 0 0</p> <p>Deduct Batta 5. 9. 3 per C. 8,981, 12 9</p> <p>Paid the Governor General's order, in favor of Major Sands, for 1 Durbar charges</p> <p>L<sup>w</sup> S<sup>a</sup> R<sup>s</sup> 1,00,000 0 0</p> <p>Deduct Batta 5. 9. 3 per C. 5,283 6 6</p> <p>Paid Major Sands, Paymaster Governor General's detachment, by Hyder Beg Cawn</p> <p>Paid ditto, per the Governor General's Order</p> <p>L<sup>w</sup> S<sup>a</sup> R<sup>s</sup> 1,00,000 0 0</p> <p>Deduct Batta 5. 9. 3 per C. 5,283 6 6</p> <p>Paid Mr. Wombwell his salary, as Acct for May, C<sup>a</sup> S<sup>a</sup> R<sup>s</sup> 2,600 0 0</p> <p>Add: Batta 5 per Cent. 130 0 0</p> <p>By the Nabob Vizier.</p> <p>Paid Abdul Rehman Cawn</p> <p>Paid the Rohillas for Jeite</p> <p>By balance remaining in the treasury 31 May 1784, or 12. Jeite Suddie 1191</p> <p>By ditto, for Batta of 5. 9. 3 per Contra</p> <p>Fyzd 16 Sun Sicca R<sup>s</sup></p>	<p>4,05,000 0 0</p> <p>2,66,849 4 6</p> <p>1,61,018 3 3</p> <p>94,716 9 6</p> <p>1,99,852 15 6</p> <p>2,730 0 0</p> <p>50,000 0 0</p> <p>5,131 8 0</p> <p>55,131 8 0</p> <p>4,70,296 3 3</p> <p>26,233 11 3</p> <p>4,96,529 14 6</p> <p>16,81,828 7 3</p>	<p>11,30,167 0 9</p> <p>11,85,298 8 9</p> <p>4,96,529 14 6</p> <p>16,81,828 7 3</p>
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Lucknow 1st June 1784, or 13th Jeite Sud. 1191.

(Errors excepted)

A true Copy.

E. H A Y, Sec.

NABOB VIZIER in Account with the Honourable Governor General and Council, from 1st to 31st May 1784, or from 12th of Byfaak Suddie to the 12 Jeite Suddie 1191.  
Dr Cr

To balance due the 30th April 1784, or 12 Byfaak Sud 1191	—	—	48,644 10 0	By amount received as per the Accountant's treasury account	—	1,31,370 1 3
To Army Subsidy.	—	—	—	By balance due the 31 May 1784 or 12 Jeite Suddie 1191	—	52,43,891 6 0
For 1 brigade, according to the old establishment	—	2,60,000 0 0	—			
For 1 regiment stationed at Lucknow, according to the new establishment	—	25,000 0 0	—			
For 5 regiments and 1 company of artillery under Colonel Sir John Cumming	—	1,45,000 0 0	—			
To Mirza Saudit Ally's Stipend.	—	—	4,30,000 0 0			
For May, at the rate of 3,00,000 per annum	—	—	25,000 0 0			
To Rohilla Stipends.	—	—	5,131 8 0			
Paid them for Jeite	—	—	50,000 0 0			
To amount paid Abdul Rheman Cawn	—	—	—			
To Interest on Mr. Frazer's Bond.	—	—	719 14 8			
One month on 1,07,388, the balance due on the bond the 30th April, at 8 per c. per a.	—	—	5,10,847 6 8			
Fyza 16 Sun Sicca rupees	—	—	53,75,261 7 0	Fyza 16 Sun Sicca rupees	—	53,75,261 7 3
Balance due on Mr. Frazer's bond the 30th April	—	—	1,07,388 0 0			
Deduct.	—	—	—			
The proportion of the receipts that the balance due on the bond bears to the amount due by the Nabob the 30th April	—	—	2,900 0 0			
Remains due on account Mr. Frazer's bond the 31 May 1784	—	—	—			
Balance due on account the army donation the 30 April	—	—	5,87,476 0 0			
Deduct.	—	—	—			
The proportion of the receipts that the balance due on account the donation bears to the amount due by the Vizier the 30 April	—	—	15,865 0 0			

When the sum received on account the sale of the horses lately belonging to the 1st regiment of cavalry can be ascertained, his Excellency will receive credit for the same.

Lucknow, 1st June 1784, or 13th Jeite Suddie 1191.  
Errors excepted.

(Signed) J. WOMBWELL,  
Accy.

A true Copy.  
E Hay,  
Secy.

ABSTRACT of the Nabob Vizier's amended ACCOUNT

from the 1st of February to the 31st of May 1784, or from the 10th of Maug Suddie to the 12th of Jette Suddie 1191.

of June, 1784,

Dr

Cr

To balance due the 31st of January 1784, or 9th Maug Sud. 1191, as per Mr. Bristow's account	—	54,02,165	13	11	By amount received: From Hyder Beg Cawn - Lw. Sa. Rs. 16,28,250 0 0 Deduct Batta 5-9-3 per ct. 86,027 0 10	15,42,222	15	2
To amount of sundry articles not carried to his Excellency's debit	19,00,441	11	5		20 Sun Cort. Rs. 1,48,750 0 0 Deduct Batta 18-3-5 per ct. 22,918 0 0	1,25,831	9	8
To Army Subsidy.					From ditto, by Major Sands, Paym. Gov. General's Det. - 1,05,136 6 0 Ditto - Lw. Rs. 99,750 0 0 Deduct Batta 5-9-3 per C. 5,270 3 3	94,479	12	9
From 1st February to 31 May 1784, 4 months, at Rs. 4,30,000 per month	17,20,000	0	0		From Almas Ally Cawn, by Col. Charles Morgan, - 24,600 0 0 Deduct 1-8-6 per Ct. 371 0 0	1,99,616	2	9
To Mirza Saudit Ally's Stipend.	75,000	9	0		Etawa Rupees 75,400 0 0 Deduct Batta 4-1-3 per C. 2,954 6 9			
To Rohilla Stipends.	25,657	8	0		From Almas Ally Cawn - Lw. Sa. Rs. 8,00,000 0 0 Deduct Batta 5-9-3 per C. 42,267 4 5	96,674	9	3
Paid them from 1st Maug to the end of Jette 1191, 5 months, at 5-13-8 per					From Lolli Butehrauje - Lw. Sa. Rs. 3,00,000 0 0 Deduct Batta 5-9-3 per C. 15,850 3 6	7,57,733	11	7
To Amount paid Abdul Rhaman Cawn	1,25,000	0	0		Bills of exchange on Calcutta Ca. Sa. Rs. 5,00,000 0 0 Hoonidiaun 5 1/2 per C. 27,500 0 0	2,84,149	12	6
To interest on Mr. Fraser's bond, to 31st May	3,188	6	6		Deduct Batta 5-9-3 per C. 5,275,500 0 0 27,869 15 9	4,99,630	0	5
					From Nabob Fyzoola Cawn, through Gopaul Dofs - 4,50,000 0 0 From the Nabob Vizier's Treasury - 50,000 0 0			
					Lw. Sa. Rs. - 5,00,000 0 0 Deduct Batta 5-9-3 per C. - 26,417 0 9	4,73,582	15	3
					Short credited by Mr. Bristow in the month of January, on account a Tuncaw on the Sezawel of Ferookabad, sent to Mr. Melvell, Paymaster Col. Cunningham's detachment - - - - -	1,887	10	4
					Batta of 5-9-3 per cent, on the sum of Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca Rupees, remaining in the Treasury the 31st May 1784, the Honourable the Governor General having ordered the Lucknow Sicca Haulee Rupee to be received as of equal value with the Fyrd. 16 Sun Sicca Rupee	26,233	0	0
					By balance remaining due the 31st of May 1784, or 12 Jette Sud. 1191 - - - - -	40,07,562	1	10
						52,43,891	6	0
						92,51,453	7	10
						Fyrd. 16 Sun Sicca Rupees		

Fyrd. 16 Sun Sicca Rupees

Lucknow, 20th June 1784, or 3d Asfar Sud, 1197.

Errors excepted. J. W O M B W E L L, Actg.

A true Copy.

E. Hay, Sec.

COPY of a Letter from the Honourable the Governor General to Mr. John Wombwell, Accountant at Lucknow; dated 20th June 1784.

The Nabob Vizier having finally agreed to the adjustments in the account current betwixt him and the Honourable Company, as stated by Mr. Larkins, the Accountant General, I have now the pleasure to send you an amended account current, brought up to the 31st May, under the seal of his Excellency, which I desire you will deposit amongst the records of your department. I have also affixed my signature to a similar account, which will be deposited amongst the records of the Vizier's government.

I must particularly recommend to you to prevent, as far as may be in your power, any differences arising betwixt the accounts of the Company and those of his Excellency in future; for this purpose I desire that you will monthly adjust your accounts with those kept by the Vizier's officers, mutually interchanging them, with your signature affixed to that delivered by you, and the seal of the acting minister to the other.

A true Copy.

(Signed) J. WOMBWELL,  
Acct.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,  
Secy.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 13th July 1784.*

The following report having been delivered by the Accountant General, on the accounts lately received from Lucknow, it was circulated, and the opinions of the members of the Board, as entered after it, was delivered on the questions, and submitted in the report.

The Accountant General having lately received from the secretary the Lucknow accounts, with the order to investigate and report on them, delivers in the following report accordingly.

The Accomptant General having lately received from the secretary the Lucknow accounts, with orders to investigate and report on them, delivers in the following report accordingly.

ACCOMPTANT GENERAL'S REPORT upon the Lucknow Accounts, from  
31st January to 1st June 1784.

When the Governor General left the Presidency, the accounts current of the Nabob's debt had been received from the late Resident at his court to 1st February 1784. By these the Nabob was indebted to the Company in the sum of - - - - -

But the Resident not having adjusted the Nabob's account current with the Accomptant General from the 30th April 1782, had not brought to account several sums for which the Nabob should have been charged, which have been since admitted by him, amounting to - - - - -

Corrected amount of the Nabob's debt on 1st February 1784 - - - - -  
The growing claims upon the Nabob between the 31st January, and 1st June 1784, amounted to - - - - -

The Governor General having received from the Nabob, between 31st January and 1st June 1784 - - - - -

The balance due from his Excellency to the Honourable Company on 1st June 1784, was - - - - -

Owde Siccas.  
54,02,165 13 11

19,00,441 11 5

73,02,607 9 4

19,48,845 14 6

92,51,453 7 10

40,07,562 1 10

52,43,891 6 0

The

The Governor General having received from the Nabob between 31st January and 1st June 1784				40,07,562	1	10
And having disbursed the following sums on the under-mentioned accounts :						
Advances to the army	-	-	24,99,479	15	2	
Remittances to the Presidency	-	-	4,99,630	0	3	
Charges at Lucknow	-	-	34,492	8	0	
Advances on account of the investment to Mr. Scott	-	-	2,32,055	10	5	
Advances on account of the Nabob	-	-	1,50,657	8	0	
Advances on account of durbar charges	-	-	94,716	9	6	
				35,11,032	3	4
Remains balance in the Lucknow treasury on the 1st June 1784				4,96,529	14	6

Fort William,  
Accomptant General's Office,  
6th July 1784.

Errors excepted.  
(Signed) WM LARKINS,  
Acct Genl.

The Accomptant General begs leave to observe to the Board, that the Accomptant to the Lucknow station has adjusted his account current of the Nabob's debt to the Company with the utmost circumspection, which has led him to discover some errors that had intruded themselves into the statement which the Accomptant General had the honour to lay before the Board on the 9th of March, of these the Accomptant General will take proper notice; he has however to observe, that no sum appears yet to have been charged to the Nabob's debit for the expence of the two rif-fallahs of horse, which returned with the Bombay detachment, one of which is stationed at Cawn-pore, the other at Futty Ghur; this, it may be presumed, has not taken place, from the Governor General's not having, at that time, agreed with the Nabob upon the monthly sum with which his Excellency should be charged for the expence of these troops, which are stationed for the defence of his dominions, from their crossing the Jumma. It may be necessary to suggest this circum-stance to the Honourable the Governor General, lest it should escape his attention. The Ac-comptant General has also to request the Honourable Board's determination on the following ques-tion, which should be communicated to the Honourable the Governor General, that his Excel-lency may be informed of the same; and to the Accomptant at Lucknow, that he may make the entry required thereof in the Vizier's account current.

Whether, as the Honourable Board were pleased to resolve, on 24th June 1782, that the Vizier should be credited for half the amount of the cost of the horses withdrawn from his service, he may credit the Vizier at the same rate for the 524 horses which were charged for as present by the account of the disbursements of the Paymaster to the late Bombay detachment, for the first month after that detachment was formed, which it may be presumed was the number that were detached from the temporary brigade on this service, these horses then being the property of the Nabob?

Fort William,  
Accomptant General's Office,  
8th July 1784.

(Signed) WM LARKINS,  
Acct Genl.

A true Copy.  
E. Hay,  
Secy.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations 13th July 1784.*

In circulation.

The secretary having this day received from the Accomptant General his promised report on the Nabob Vizier's account lately transmitted by Mr. Wombwell, the orders of the Members of

of the Board are requested on the question submitted by the Accomptant General in the last part of it.

Secret Department,  
9th July 1784.

(Signed) E. HAY,  
Secretary.

I am of opinion that the Vizier may be credited for half the amount of the cost of horses withdrawn from his service, viz. 524 horses.

(Signed) E. W.

I do not perfectly understand the question, in the manner in which it is stated by the Accomptant General. The former resolutions or orders of the Board on the subject of these horses should be brought before us, and then the whole might be transmitted to the Governor General, to settle with the Vizier, after hearing the arguments or objections of his ministers.

(Signed) J. M.P.

I should suppose this subject does not press, and I very much dislike any thing being sent in circulation. I desire the papers relating to the subject may be laid before the Board at the next meeting, and will then give my opinion.

Chinfura,  
10th July 1784.

(Signed) J. S.

The Board referring to the proceedings in the public department on the 24th of June 1782, observe that it was then agreed to give the Vizier credit for half the amount of the original cost of the horses belonging to the regiments of cavalry which were formerly stationed in his Excellency's dominions, beyond the line of guarantee, but which were lately returned within the provinces. It is therefore now agreed that the Vizier shall have credit at the same rate, for the horses belonging to the first regiment of cavalry detached on service to the West of India.

Lucknow, 20th June 1784.

To Edward Wheeler, Esquire, &c. Council, Fort William.

Gentlemen,

The Nabob Vizier having finally agreed to the adjustments in the account current betwixt him and the Honourable Company, as stated by Mr. Larkins, the Accomptant General, I have the pleasure to inform you, that the acting minister this day presented to me an amended account, under the seal of the Vizier, brought up to the 31st of May, which I have delivered to Mr. Wombwell, the Accomptant at this place, to be deposited amidst the records of his department. I have also affixed my signature to a similar account, which will be deposited amongst the records of the Vizier's government.

The accounts thus settled and interchanged were drawn out in the Persian language; but Mr. Wombwell will forward with his official monthly account an English abstract of the Vizier's account with the Company from the 1st February to 31st May last, which corresponds with the Persian account interchanged betwixt the Company and me.

I beg leave to apologize to you for the delay which has been made by Mr. Wombwell in transmitting to you the monthly accounts, as they were detained from time to time in expectation of this adjustment being completed.

It

It is necessary that I should observe, that this adjustment is independent of the claims which the Vizier has submitted to you on account of his loss by batta, and of unauthorized appropriations of his payments to the late Resident. The former of these has been fully represented to you in my letter of the 14th instant; the latter was mentioned in my letter of the 5th April, and being now under investigation will be more particularly stated to you hereafter. His Excellency will submit to your decision on both these claims; but it is necessary that I should here express to you his desire that this adjustment may not be considered as precluding his right to any redress, to which, from the cases themselves, you may think him entitled.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

P. S. As the differences which are thus adjusted have been accumulating for several years, they have of course become involved in a considerable degree of intricacy, inasmuch that I believe the Vizier and his ministers have acquiesced in admitting our claims, more from a spirit of accommodation, and a reliance on our accuracy, proved in a clear comprehension of each article, than from their own conviction of their propriety. I have long made these claims a particular object of my attention; and as I have not the smallest doubt of their propriety, I strongly recommended this adjustment to the Vizier and his ministers; they have acquiesced, but their acquiescence may perhaps be entirely ascribed to my being on the spot, since all the endeavours which we have used to effect this adjustment for some years past through the Resident have failed. I consider this therefore as an important point gained, both because it substantiates claims of the Company to so considerable an amount, and because it obviates all future disputes on the subject betwixt us and the Vizier.

That no similar source of dispute may hereafter arise, I have directed Mr. Wombwell to adjust and settle his accounts at the end of every month with the acting minister of the Vizier, and to interchange them under their respective seals and signatures.

A true Copy.

E. HAY,

Secy.

Lucknow, June 20th 1784.

Edward Wheler, Esquire. &c. Council, at Fort William.

Gentlemen,

In compliance with your directions, I have enquired into the nature of the charges preferred against Almas Ally Khan, in Mr. Bristow's letter to the Board of the 4th October last.

And conceiving that the fairest and best way of coming at the truth of these matters was, to take the evidence of such gentlemen as were capable, from situation, of giving me the most authentic information, I applied to Colonel Ironside, Colonel Sir John Cumming, and Lieutenant James Anderson; copies of whose letters, together with mine to them, I have the honour to enclose you.

You will doubtless see the propriety of calling upon Colonel Morgan for his information, by putting the same questions to him as I have done to Colonel Ironside and Colonel Sir John Cumming.

I shall avoid giving an opinion myself, as, on the supposition of your calling upon Colonel Morgan, the subject would not be completely before me; but whatever may be the result of your sentiments upon the whole subject taken together, I desire to be favoured with them as early as possible, as well as with the resolution which you may pass in consequence.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient,

and most humble Servant,

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,

Secy.

COPY

COPY of a Letter from the Governor General to Colonel Ironside, commanding the Troops in the Field.

Lucknow, 16th May 1784.

Sir,

The Board having referred to me for my enquiry a charge preferred by Mr. Bristow against Almas Ally Cawn, of having entertained a design of rebelling against the Nabob Vizier his master, and of seizing the artillery at Caunpore during the interval of the relief of the brigade about the close of the last year, I request that you will inform me whether any thing passed within your knowledge or observation which appeared to have a relation to such a design, or to prove it.

I am, Sir, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

The same letter was written to Lieutenant Colonel Sir John Cummings, commanding at Fatty Ghur.

COPY of a Letter to Mr. James Anderfon, Resident with Scindia.

Lucknow, 16th May 1784.

Dear Sir,

It appears from the letters which Mr. David Anderfon wrote to Mr. Bristow, under date the that he entertained some suspicions of an improper correspondence being carried on at that time betwixt Scindia, or Cheyt Sing, and Almas Ally Cawn. I desire you will inform me if any further facts have come to your knowledge tending to corroborate these suspicions, or to shew that this correspondence, if it then existed, was afterwards continued; and I must particularly require you to give your opinion, formed on your own observation, whether any such correspondence or improper connection subsisted in or about the month of December last, when the brigade at Cawnpore was relieved.

I am, dear Sir, &c. &c.

A true Copy.

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General.

Lucknow, 27th May 1784.

Honourable Sir,

I have received your commands of the 16th instant, directing me to inform you "whether any thing passed within my knowledge or observation which appeared to have relation to a design said to have been entertained by Almas Ally Cawn, of rebelling against the Nawab Vizier his master, and of seizing the artillery at Cawnpore during the interval of the relief of the brigades (about the close of the last year) or to prove the same."

To these orders I should have paid immediate obedience, but that I was obliged to send for the public letters on this subject to Cawnpore, and since then to get them transcribed.

The copies of them are finished, and I now proceed to the communication of what came to my knowledge relative to that design.

While I was at Benares, on the march to Cawnpore, I received a letter from the English Resident at the Vizier's court, dated the 21st of December last (marked in the Appendix No. 1.) and enclosing the several papers, marked in the same Appendix No. 2.

In consequence of the Resident's apprehensions, they were conveyed to me, I repaired to Chunar Gur to procure a supply of ammunition; and obtained from Colonel Blair eighty thousand ball cartridges,

bridges, which I dispatched to meet the brigade at Allahabad, as will be seen in the letters No. 3 and 4 of the Appendix.

No. 5 contains my answer to Mr. Bristow's notification to me of the supposed defection, and of the measures I had taken in consequence.

The contents of No. 6 and 7 comprize advice from Colonel James Morgan to the eldest officers present with the third brigade, of the intelligence communicated to him by the Resident at Lucknow concerning Almas's; and information from the officer then commanding at Cawnpore to Colonel Morgan, of the measures taken for the security of that station.

An address from me to General Stibbert, in the next No. 8, delivers my opinion respecting Almas's disaffection, according to the appearances at that time.

No. 9 comprehends the reason for Colonel Morgan not giving earlier notice of the intelligence he had received regarding Almas's.

A letter from the Resident, in reply to my answer of the 28th of December, marked No. 10, declares his apprehensions of Almas's ill intentions being then at an end.

In No. 11 is contained the advice of Ishmael Beg, Aumil of Allahabad, to the commanding officer then present with the brigade, not to move towards Cawnpore without a reinforcement.

Consonant to this advice followed the order from me to Captain Dennis, marked No. 12.

No. 13. is a letter from Major M'Clary, commanding at Cawnpore, dated the 3d of January, expressing that no disturbances then existed, and his opinion of Almas's intentions.

In conformity to this opinion, I addressed the two letters, No. 14, to the General and Major M'Clary, directing the latter to proceed to join his own corps on the arrival of the third brigade at Cawnpore.

Immediately, Sir, on receipt of your orders of the 16th instant, I requested Major Dunn, to whom the command at Cawnpore immediately devolved, on the removal of the second brigade from thence, to acquaint me with what he knew concerning the revolt of Almas's. No. 15 is his answer to that requisition.

The last number, 16, comprises the orders issued at Cawnpore, from the 17th of December 1783 to the 28th of the same month.

With the utmost consideration and respect,

I am,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient

humble Servant,

(Signed)

G. IRONSIDE,

Colonel,

APPENDIX to the Letter of the Colonel of the Third Brigade, in answer to the Enquiries concerning the Defection of Almas's Ally Cawn.

(Copy) No. 1.

To Colonel Gilbert Ironside, commanding the 3d Brigade.

Sir,

In consequence of a letter I addressed to Colonel James Morgan on the 10th instant, he ordered Major M'Clary to return to Cawnpore with his regiment to reinforce the troops at that station. The conduct of Almas's Ally Cawn since that period has given us further reason to consider our suspicions of his disaffection well-founded; after the measures which have been adopted, I entertain little apprehension of any immediate bad consequences. Indeed I never conceived that Almas's Ally

Ally Cawn would rashly make an attack upon either Cawnpore or Futtly Ghur, while the troops at those stations were collected in force. But the suspicious conduct of this Aumil rendered it a measure of absolute necessity to reinforce the weak guard at Cawnpore as well for the protection of the magazine, artillery, &c. as to enable Colonel Sir John Cumming to act with vigour, and without dividing his force. Should Almas Ally Cawn withdraw his allegiance, and, as was the case last year only, recall his Naibs from the districts under his charge, leaving the country in a state of anarchy, he could not, in my opinion, make any stand against the Company's forces now in the Doab; but were he to quit the Vizier's dominions, it would, in the event, be necessary to have a considerable body of troops on the spot, to preserve the peace of the countries he might evacuate, and to establish the authority of the new Aumils: These are additional reasons for strengthening the Cawnpore station. I must beg leave to recommend to your consideration the probable good effect that your speedy arrival at that place would produce.

I have the honour to be

Lucknow,  
21st December 1783.

Your very obedient humble Servant,  
(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,  
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

(A true Copy)  
(Signed) R. E. Roberts,  
Secy.

No. 2.

COPY of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Colonel James Morgan; dated Lucknow,  
10th December 1783.

As I have strong reasons to doubt the loyalty of Almas Ally Cawn, I am very apprehensive that he may seize the opportunity which the departure of the brigade from Cawnpore presents to him, of throwing off his allegiance, and possibly make some attempt to possess himself of the artillery and stores left at that station. I therefore request you will favour me with your opinion, whether you think the force now left at Cawnpore, under the command of Major Dunn, is sufficient to enable that officer, should Almas actually harbour any such design, to defend himself till reinforcements may arrive from the stations of Lucknow, Kyrabad, and Salone, or from Colonel Sir John Cumming's detachment? And, supposing Almas might bring with him to the attack, as I believe he readily might, a body of troops, artillery, &c. agreeable to the inclosed statement, if you are of opinion that Major Dunn's force is insufficient: I am further to request you will direct such an augmentation to be made to it from your brigade, as may effectually secure him against any hostile attempt from the quarter above-mentioned till the arrival of Colonel Ironside.

I should have addressed you earlier on this subject, but it was only to-day the intelligence reached me; from which I am led particularly to think the defection of Almas probable. I hope, indeed, the best; but it is nevertheless in common prudence necessary to guard against every possible contingency, at the same time that the appearance of suspicion or distrust on the part of government with respect to his good faith, might tend to confirm Almas in his evil designs, and accelerate a measure which is at present perhaps only in contemplation. I dare say you will agree with me in opinion, that in recommending the utmost vigilance to the commanding officer at Cawnpore, &c. it is highly proper the motives inducing these precautions should be kept as secret as possible.

Statement

## Statement of Almas Ally Cawn's Troops.

With whom.					Horse.	Foot.	Artillery.
Toberam, and Tewaram,	Foujdars of Etya	—	—	—	800	1,600	5
Shaick Azim o' Deen,	Do. Ackberabad	Sevendfa	—	—	200	400	
Taukoor Dofs	—	Do. Shorah	—	—	500	1,000	4
Seetul Perraud,	—	Do. Coreh	—	—	500	1,000	5
Jeffing Roy, Aumil of Piphoond	—	—	—	—	200	1,000	2
Hussen Cawn, Jugdenpoor, Affarah, &c.	—	—	—	—	200	1,000	4
Hussen Buxsh Chele, Foujdar Futtepoor	—	—	—	—	400	100	2
At Meha Gunge	—	—	—	—	650		
At Talgong	—	—	—	—	1,400	1,700	18-4 large.
With Almas at Lucknow					4,850	8,700	40
					150	300	
Total					5,000	9,000	40

N. B. 20 pieces of the above artillery belonging to the Nabob.  
 20 Do. — Do. — to Almas

This statement was transmitted to Colonel Morgan by the Resident, under date the 27th August 1783, and no particular account of any changes has been since received. But the Resident understands Almas has called in some of the out stations. Since he went himself to his districts, nine hundred Turksowars have joined him, in addition, from Lucknow, and he has also raised, by his own authority, two troops of the Company's disbanded cavalry.

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No. 2.

Mr. Bristow to Colonel Sir John Cumming, dated 11th December 1783.

I enclose, for your information, a copy of a letter I have addressed to Colonel Morgan.

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No. 2.

Colonel Sir John Cumming in Reply, dated Futtegur, 13th December 1783.

I am favoured with your letter of the 11th current, inclosing a copy of your letter to Colonel Morgan, together with a statement of Almas's forces.

If you think there be immediate danger to the magazine, &c. at Cawnpore, and in case Colonel Morgan have not, in consequence of your information, either left a reinforcement, or halted himself near Cawnpore, in my opinion, the most eligible mode would be to order the regiment at Kyrabad thither immediately. Half the regiment at Lucknow might march thither also, and as soon as Colonel Ironside arrives the people might return to their stations.

For my own part, I will hold the troops here in readiness to march the moment I receive certain intelligence that Almas is drawing his troops together with a hostile intention. I will also in that event order Colonel Knudson to join me by forced marches.

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No. 2.

Major McClary to Mr. Bristow; dated Cawnpore, 19th December 1783.

I know not yet what the Aumil's intentions are, but this is certain, that he is collecting his forces from every quarter, under the specious plea of mustering them. As I should highly experience the want of artillerymen, in case of any attack on this place, I have wrote to Sir John Cumming,

Cumming, requesting that a detachment may be sent down with all expedition, having at present only a few lascars to work the guns.

Should it appear to you the Aumil has hostile intentions, I think that the two companies of Major Scott's regiment, now on their march to Lucknow, might be ordered to join me, as also three or four from the Kyrabad or Lucknow stations, as Major Dunn has above two companies detached, and I have nearly one. Should the Aumil draw this way apparently hostile, I mean to quit the cantonments, carrying with me the park and magazine, and move to a place near the Cawnpore old lines, where I shall be enabled to withstand his attack, and any attempt to preserve so straggling a place as those cantonments would be useless, impracticable and divide my force.—It is necessary that the hawk between this and Lucknow should be more expeditious.

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No. 2.

Mr. Bristow to Major M'Clary ; dated Lucknow, 20th December 1783.

I am favoured with your letters of the 17th and 19th instant.

In case Colonel Morgan should not have furnished you with a list of the Aumil's troops, I have the pleasure to inclose you one. The intelligence you convey to me of his collecting them under the pretence of muster is very suspicious, as their services at the present season of the year are required in securing the collections, and the measure is unprecedented. As the Resident's guard has Golahandazes attached to it, I have preferred requesting Captain M'Leod to proceed to Cawnpore with all expedition, and called upon Lieutenant Wroughton, with the two companies under his command to march along with him. They have my requisition to obey your orders.

The arms of Captain M'Leod's battalion being in a very bad state, and not fit for service, I request you will order the number requisite to be served him from the magazine at Cawnpore.

I have, at the recommendation of the Colonels Morgan and Cummings, requested Major Cook will reinforce you with one battalion from his regiment.—I have attended to your intimation concerning the hawk, and I beg you will also follow proper measures with the Munshree at Cawnpore, to oblige his people to do their duty.

True Copies.  
(Signed)

J. NEAVE,  
Assistant to the Resident at  
the Vizier's Court.

A true Copy.  
(Signed) R. E. Roberts,  
Secy.

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(Copy) No. 3.

EXTRACT of a Letter from Colonel Ironside to General Stibbert ; dated Chunar Gur, December 27th 1783.

My presence at this place is occasioned by advices received yesterday from the Resident at the Vizier's court, of the apprehended defection of Almas Ally Cawn, who, under pretence of mustering his troops (an unprecedented transaction with him) is collecting a considerable force within no great distance of Cawnpore : At the requisition of the Vizier, he informs me, parties of our sepoys are moving from several stations, for the protection of the cantonments and magazine at that place.

The moment I received Mr. Bristow's letter, I hastened to Chunar Gur, in order to obtain and expedite a supply of ball ammunition, sufficient for our use, in case the insurrection prove real, and in consequence of my requisition to that effect, Colonel Blair will dispatch in a light boat tomorrow forty thousand ball cartridges; that is about twenty rounds per man, to Allahabad. The officer who has charge of this ammunition is directed to hasten it to the brigade with the utmost

utmost expedition. Forty thousand more are to follow the ensuing day, under charge of a conductor, with similar instructions. Thus accelerated, they will meet the brigade much about the time it has crossed the Ganges; for its further transportation by land I have ordered carriages to be prepared.

In case any actual service be expected, I shall demand the ammunition also of the second brigade, who can be supplied from hence on their way down; nor shall I hesitate to call upon the Kelladar of Allahabad, for any light field cannon he may have in the magazine of that fortress.

In the like event, the relief of the troops at Allahabad must be for the present postponed.

A true Extract.

(Signed) R. E. ROBERTS, Secy.

No. 4.

Chunar Gur, 27th December 1783.

Colonel Blair, commanding at Chunar.

Sir,

The Resident at the Vizier's Court having advised me of disturbances not unlikely to happen, from some hostile preparations of Almas Ally Cawn, who is said to be assembling a considerable force near Cawnpoor; and as there is no more ammunition with the 3d brigade than five rounds per man, for the mere purpose of the march, I am under the necessity of requesting a supply of ball musquet cartridges, to the amount of forty thousand (or fifty barrels) from the magazine under your command, to proceed immediately in a light boat to Allahabad, under charge of Captain Cow, an officer of the 3d regiment, and with the utmost expedition; and also of another supply of forty thousand of the same, to follow in another light boat, as soon as it can be prepared, under care of some European, either officer or conductor, in order to accelerate its passage. Provided this ammunition be not wanted at Allahabad, it shall be immediately returned from thence; but should it come in demand, a proper indent, on emergency, will in that case be transmitted to you officially, to authorize the delivery.

For your information and guidance, supposing the intended insurrection to be real, I shall do myself the honour to leave with you a transcript of the intelligence received from Mr. Bristow, accompanied by a statement of the forces which Almas Ally Cawn has under his command.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

G. IRONSIDE,

Colonel.

A true Copy.

(Signed) R. E. Roberts, Secy.

No. 5.

Chunar Ghur, December 28, 1783.

To John Bristow, Esquire, Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Sir,

I have been favoured by your letters of the 21st and 22d instant, advising me of the apprehended defection of Almas Ally Cawn. To me, who am little conversant in the politics of the Durbar, the intelligence conveyed, I must confess, gave no inconsiderable degree of surprise; because I cannot reconcile to reason the existence of a power, in the servant of a Government, so immediately and imminently dangerous to that Government itself; but for want of that knowledge, I am perhaps no competent judge of such a contingency.

The moment, however, after I was favoured with your letter, I hastened to this place, in order to obtain and expedite a supply of ball ammunition sufficient for our use, in case the insurrection prove more than imaginary; for five rounds per man only were brought with us, for the

mere purpose of the march. Accordingly I have this day accelerated from hence forty thousand ball cartridges to meet the brigade at Allahabad. An additional supply of forty thousand more will be dispatched by Colonel Blair to-morrow. Provided any serious service be actually expected, I shall not hesitate to call upon the Kelladar at Allahabad, for any light field cannon, with the ammunition attached to it, which he may have in that fortrefs. This demand will be made on an emergency, justified by the occasion; but I must entreat, if you please, that you will nevertheless obtain the sanction of the Vizier for that requisition.

The late wet weather having augmented the burthen of our camp equipage, the progress of the troops within these few days has been slow. You may be assured, however, that they will proceed to their destination with all consistent expedition.

A true Copy.  
(Signed) R. E. Robert,  
Secry.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) G. IRONside,  
Col.

No. 6.

EXTRACT of a letter from Colonel James Morgan to Major William Watson, Commanding Officer, Camp. Third Brigade, dated Camp, December 28th, 1783, 8 P. M.

“ Some time ago I wrote to Major M’Clary, who commands at Cawnpore, to give Colonel Ironside every information necessary upon his entering into the Dewab; and I likewise recommend it to you to give him the information when you shall have crossed the river, that you may have every intelligence to enable you to judge of the propriety of marching up on that side, or of re-crossing at Currah, as Mr. Bristow, the Resident at Lucknow, has informed me that he has some reason to suppose that Almas, the Aumil of Etayah and Cofah Districts, may be troublesome.”

A true Extract.

(Signed) R. E. ROBERTS,  
Secry.

No. 7.

To Colonel James Morgan, &c.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you, that in consequence of my requisition to Sir John Cumming for a few artillery men, he has thought proper to send me 20 Europeans and 40 Lascars, under the command of a subaltern officer.

Mr. Bristow has also, in consequence of my request to him for a few companies (if he deemed the Aumil hostile) sent me a battalion from Khyrabad, Captain M’Leod’s corps, and two companies of the third regiment, under command of Lieutenant Wroughton. This force I consider to be unnecessary, as the Aumil does not appear to me to entertain any design dangerous to our government.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) W. M’CLARY,  
Comd at Cawnpore.

A true Copy.  
Cawnpore, (Signed)  
27th Dec. 1783.

H. Lloyd,  
Secry. to Col. Morgan.

(Signed) R. E. Roberts, Secry.

No. 8.

Mirzapore, 29th December, 1783.

To General Stibbert, Commander in Chief.

Sir,

I advised you on the 27th instant of the intelligence I had received from the Resident at the Vizier's Court, concerning Almas Ally Cawn, and of the measures I had in consequence pursued.

After seeing all the ammunition dispatched from Chunar Ghur, I quitted that place myself, and shall rejoin the troops at Allahabad.

I do not conceive the apprehensions regarding Almas Ally Cawn are become realized. An officer who left Allahabad yesterday has informed me, that no notice of disturbances at Cawnpore had reached Allahabad when he left it.

The return of Major M'Clary's regiment to Cawnpore, by order of Colonel Morgan, together with a battalion from Kyrabad, a few companies from Lucknow, and some artillery from Futtu Ghur, dispatched to the same place, at the desire of the Resident, will probably keep every thing quiet, and defeat any intention of Almas Ally Cawn, admitting that he has really formed any, to possess himself of the magazine and stores there, during the relief of the brigades.

I am, &c.

A true Copy.

(Signed)

R. E. Roberts,

Secry.

(Signed)

G. IRONSIDE,

Col.

No. 9.

To Major William Watson, commanding in Camp, Third Brigade.

Sir,

I am favoured with your letter of the 29th instant, and beg leave to refer you to my former letters, in respect to the boats, and the ground I thought best for you to encamp on.

Inclosed I have sent for your satisfaction, a copy of a letter I have received from Major M'Clary, relative to Almas Ally Cawn's disposition. My reasons for not mentioning to you any thing of the matter were, that I did not give credit to the reports I have heard of it, and did not choose to give alarm.

I am, &c.

December 30th 1783.

Camp, Muti Ranca Talone.

(Signed)

JAMES MORGAN,

Col.

A true Copy.

(Signed)

R. E. Roberts, Secry.

No. 10.

To Colonel Gilbert Ironside, commanding the Third Brigade.

Lucknow, 2d January, 1784.

Sir,

I am honoured with your letters of the 22d and 28th ult. I beg leave to offer my thanks for your attention to the intelligence I communicated to you concerning Almas Ally Cawn.

The measures I recommended for the defence of the Cawnpore station have been attended with the desired effect; and I am assured by Major M'Clary, that he is under no apprehension of an attack. In consequence of his advices, I have requested him to order back the Resident's guard; and

and at the requisition of Colonel Morgan, I have also desired he would direct the two companies of the third regiment to proceed to their station. The situation of affairs between Almas and this Government is still the same; but I am under no apprehension of your meeting with any opposition on your march.

I am, &c.

A true Copy.

(Signed) R. E. Roberts,

Secy.

(Signed) .

JOHN BRISTOW,

Resident at the Vizier's Court.

No. 11.

EXTRACT of a Letter from Major William Watson to Major Roberts; dated at Allahabad, January 2d, 1784.

" Ishmael Beg recommends my writing to Major M'Clary, to send a regiment and six guns to meet us about 20 cofs from Cawnpore."

EXTRACT of a Letter from Major William Watson to Colonel Ironside; dated at Allahabad, January 3d, 1784.

" As I heard Major Lucas's regiment was (some days ago) at Benares, I have wrote to him to join with all convenient expedition; for Ishmael Beg recommended it to me not to march with only one regiment, but rather to send for a regiment to meet us from Cawnpore, with some artillery; but that does not seem to me at all necessary, nor, I believe, in reality, does he."

EXTRACT of a Letter from Major William Watson to Major Roberts; dated Cawnpore, January 23d, 1784.

" One battalion of the ninth regiment (Major Cook's) came here when the alarm was about Almas, and has remained here ever since. Captain Douglas commands the battalion."

True Extract.

(Signed)

R. E. ROBERTS,

Secy.

EXTRACT of a Letter from Colonel Ironside to General Stibbert; dated Allahabad, 3d January, 1784.

" Enclosed I transmit copy of a letter from Major M'Clary to Colonel Morgan, in consequence of which I shall order the ammunition brought from Chunar to be returned thither."

A true Extract.

(Signed)

R. E. ROBERTS,

Secy.

No. 12.

EXTRACT of a Letter from Major Roberts to Captain Robert Dennis, commanding at Parroffu; dated Allahabad, January 4th, 1784.

Colonel Ironside directs me to acquaint you, that it is his desire you do remain with your battalion at your present station until you receive further instructions; for he thinks it proper to carry the regiment he intended to leave here half way, or as far as Currah, with him, until the arrival of

of the brigade at Cawnpore, when that regiment will be returned to this station, and your battalion be relieved, in conformity to whatever orders you have received from the commanding officer of your own brigade.

A true Copy.

(Signed) R. E. ROBERTS,  
Secy.

No. 13.

(Copy) To Major William Watfon, commanding the Third Brigade.

Sir,

I have the honour to receive your letter of the 30th ultimo, and in reply, to inform you, that at present not any real disturbance exists. The Aumil of the Doab, Almas Ally Cawn, is supposed, from his conduct, to have refractory intentions to the Vizier's government; but in my opinion, only so far as to lead him to quit the country. At any rate, should he have hostile intentions, and draw near this station, my force is sufficient to repel any attack he may make. At present his chief force is twenty-five coss to the northward of this station, and there is not any of consequence between Allahabad and this place. Should any particular transaction take place, notice will be given you with all expedition.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. M'CLARY.

Cawnpore,

January 3d, 1784.

A true Copy.

R. E. Roberts.

(Copy) No. 14.

EXTRACT of a Letter from Colonel Ironside to General Stibbert; dated Allahabad, 5th January, 1784.

In my letter of the 3d instant, I advised you, that in consequence of an address from Major M'Clary to Colonel Morgan, of which I enclosed a copy, advising of there not being the smallest appearance of disturbances likely to be raised by Almas Ally Cawn, it was my intention to return the ammunition I had \* near dispatched from Chunar Gur to that place; but being now informed by Ishmael Beg, and papers of intelligence, that the Aumil still keeps his force collected together in the neighbourhood of Rampoor; and that he has been distributing ammunition to his troops, I have altered that intention, and shall take one half of the cartridges with me, and leave the other half here for the use of the 14th regiment of sepoy, which I have directed, conformably to your instructions, to relieve the battalions of the 2d brigade at this place, and at Sahone. The leaving ammunition here is the more necessary, as the guard in the fort of Choumdee is continually threatened by a considerable armed force of banditti in the neighbourhood of it.

A true Extract.

R. E. ROBERTS, Secy.

(Copy) No. 14.

To Major M'Clary, commanding at Cawnpore.

Sir,

Colonel Morgan having made known to me that the regiment under your command was sent back to Cawnpore for the purpose of protecting that cantonment during the absence of a brigade;

• Dubious.

and as that security will, I apprehend, be effected when the third brigade reaches within the distance of one march of that station; you will please, therefore, as soon as the third brigade does arrive within that distance, to proceed to join the second brigade, in conformity to the orders of your own immediate commanding officer to that effect, unless you are of opinion, that your stay at Cawnpore, till the actual arrival of the third brigade there, be absolutely expedient.

I am, &c.

(Signed) G. IRONSIDE, Col.

(Copy) No. 15.

To Colonel Gilbert Ironside, commanding in the Field.

Sir,

I had the honour of receiving your letter of yesterday's date.

When the disaffection of Almas Ally Cawn was suspected, Mr. Bristow communicated his fears to Colonel Morgan, who was then near Allahabad, and to Sir John Cummings at Futta Ghur; but the first intimation I had of it at Cawnpore, was the return of Major M'Clary's regiment to that station.

After I had given up the command of the cantonments at Cawnpore to Major M'Clary, I received a letter from Colonel Morgan, directing me to keep the troops together, for that the infidelity of Almas Ally Cawn was evident, and that his intentions to seize on the magazine and park of artillery would be his grand object. In consequence of this information, I employed some trusty people, and from the intelligence which they brought me, I found there was nothing to fear from that quarter, and that the few troops that Almas had with him were employed in the collections.

I am, &c.

Lucknow,  
18th May, 1784.

(Signed) JAMES DUNN,  
Major 9th regiment.

(A true Copy.)

R. E. Roberts. Secy.

No. 16.

EXTRACT from the Orderly Book of the 29th regiment, commanded by Major James Dunn, from December the 17th to December the 28th, 1783.

Orders issued by Major M'Clary, commanding at Cawnpore.

December 17th, 1783. R. O. The regiment to furnish two complete companies for picquet this evening.

Detachment Orders by Major M'Clary.

December 17th, 1783. The four eldest subalterns to do duty as captains, and act as captain of the day. All picquets and guards to report to the captain of the day, who will please to be attentive in going the grand round himself every night, and order visiting rounds every hour. All rounds to be particularly careful in visiting the magazine. The captain of the day will be pleased to detach from the picquet, every night, two Jemmidar's parties, and four Havildar's parties, to take post in the different roads and avenues leading to the cantonments; the advanced centries to be always ready loaded, and in case of the approach of any body of troops, to give the alarm by discharging their firelocks: The commanding officers of these parties to be particularly careful that no false alarm may be given. The magazine guard to consist of two companies, with two guns, under the command of a subaltern officer, who will please to be particularly diligent for the preservation of the magazine under his charge. The picquet to mount every evening half an hour before sun-set, and to consist of two subaltern officers, four companies, and two six pounders, and to be under the immediate direction of the captain of the day. In case of an alarm, and the drums

drums beating to arms, all detached guards, the magazine guard excepted, to join their corps with the utmost expedition. The commanding officer will be pleased to order the drums to beat to arms in case of the approach of any body of troops, or on any alarm. A company from the 34th regiment to march in the evening in order to reinforce the present guard over the magazine. The officer on duty at the magazine to be relieved every evening. All reports to be made to the captain of the day, who will report to, and receive his orders from the commanding officer. Lieutenant Burnett will be pleased to order a proper proportion of ammunition with each gun, and also as many Lascars as can be spared from the magazine and stores, for the purpose of working the guns.

December 18th. In case of an alarm, Lieutenant Burnett will be pleased to take charge of the two guns stationed at the magazine; and Lieutenant Fleming will be pleased to take charge of the six pounders stationed with the 23d and 34th regiments, and whatever stores may be necessary, he will be pleased to send to Lieutenant Burnett, who will supply.

20th. Lieutenant Turton will please to do duty with Lieutenant Fleming, as an artillery officer, with those guns attached to the regiment.

22d. Captain M'Clode's battalion, and two companies of the 3d regiment, being arrived in camp, the officers and men are directed to be put on the roster of duty.

23d. The picquet in future to consist of three companies and two guns, one company from each regiment, one from Captain M'Clode's battalion, one company from Lieut. Wroughton's to relieve, this evening, the company of 23d regiment, now on the magazine guard.

25th. The detachment of artillery having arrived, Lieutenant Spark will be pleased to take charge of the six six-pounders, attached with the regiments.

28th. A company from Captain Douglass's battalion to mount picquet this evening, and for the future to take all turns of duty in roster with the other corps.

JAMES DUNN,

Major 29th regt.

(A true Extract.)

John Aftworth,

Adjutant 29th regiment.

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To Colonel Sir John Cumming, commanding a Detachment on the Frontier Station.

Sir,

I enclose for your information a copy of a letter I have addressed to Colonel Morgan.

I have the honour, Sir, to be

Your most obedient humble servant,

(Signed)

JOHN BRISTOW,

Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Lucknow,

11 December 1783.

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To Colonel Morgan, commanding the Troops in the Field.

Sir,

As I have strong reasons to doubt the loyalty of Ulma's Ally Cawn, I am very apprehensive he may seize the opportunity which the departure of the brigade from Cawnpore presents to him of throwing off his allegiance, and possibly make some attempt to possess himself of the artillery and stores left at that station: I therefore request you will favour me with your opinion, whether you think the force now left at Cawnpore, under the command of Major Dunn, is sufficient to enable that officer, should Ulma's actually harbour any such design, to defend himself till reinforcements may arrive from the stations at Lucknow, Kyrabad, and Salone, or from Sir John Cumming's detachment, and supposing Ulma's to bring with him to the attack, as I believe he readily might, a body of troops, artillery, &c. agreeably to the enclosed statement—if you are of opinion that Major Dunn's present force is insufficient, I am further to request you will direct such an augmentation

mentation to be made to it from your brigade as may effectually secure him against any hostile attempt from the quarter above-mentioned.

I should have addressed you earlier on this subject, but it was only to-day that the intelligence reached me, from which I am led particularly to think the defection of Almasi probable. I hope indeed the best; but it is nevertheless necessary to guard against every possible contingency. At the same time, as the appearance of suspicion or distrust on the part of Government, with respect to his good faith, might tend to confirm Almasi in his evil designs, and accelerate a measure which perhaps is at present only in contemplation, I dare say you will agree with me in opinion, that in recommending the utmost vigilance to the commanding officer at Cawnpore, &c. it is highly proper the motives inducing these precautions should be kept as secret as possible.

Lucknow,  
10 December 1783.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,  
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

A true Copy.  
(Signed) T. Hill,  
Assistant to the Resident.

#### STATEMENT of Almasi Ally Khan's Troops.

With whom.						Horse.	Foot.	Artillery.
Toberan and Tenazam, Foudars of Etaya	—	—	—	—	—	800	1,600	5
Seik Azem Uldin, Do. Akburabad, Sikundee	—	—	—	—	—	200	400	
Takir Daus, Foudar Sholerah	—	—	—	—	—	500	1,000	4
Seetul Perfaud, Do. Corah	—	—	—	—	—	500	1,000	5
Sessing Roy, Aumil Pephoond	—	—	—	—	—	200	1,000	2
Huffan Bucksh Cheeta, Foudar Futtypore	—	—	—	—	—	400	1,000	4
Huffan Cawn, Judgespore, Anoune	—	—	—	—	—	200	1,000	2
At Meha Gunge	—	—	—	—	—	650		
At Salgong	—	—	—	—	—	1,400	1,700	18--4 large
With Ulmasi at Lucknow						4,850	8,700	40
						150	300	
Total						5,000	9,000	40

N. B. 20 pieces of the above belonging to the Nabob.  
20 ditto ditto to Ulmasi.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,  
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

This Statement was transmitted to Col. Morgan by the Resident, under date 27th August, 1783, and no particular account has since been received of the changes; but the Resident understands Ulmasi has called in some of the out stations: Since he went himself into the out districts nine hundred Turko-wars have joined him in addition from Lucknow; and he has also raised, by his own authority, two troops of the Company's disbanded cavalry.

True Copies.

(Signed) RALPH BROOM,  
Secretary to Col. Sir John Cumming.

COPY

COPY of a Letter from Colonel Sir John Cummings to the Honourable Warren Hastings,  
Esquire, Governor General, &c. &c.

Honourable Sir,

I have been honoured by the receipt of your letter of the 17th current, desiring to know whether any thing passed within my knowledge or observation which indicated a design in Ulmafs Ally Cawn to rebel against his Excellency the Vizier, and to seize on the magazine at Cawnpore.

In my letter to the Honourable Board, dated December 24th, 1783, I informed them of the cautionary steps I had taken in consequence of the information I had received from the Resident upon this head; at the same time I observed, that I did not give entire credit to the report. I had not observed any part of Ulmafs's conduct which could raise an apprehension of his having formed a design to throw off his allegiance—neither could I think him so chimerical and weak as to flatter himself with hope of success in an attempt to oppose the arms of the Honourable Company, or to seize on the magazine at Cawnpore. The only thing in his power was to withdraw himself from his Excellency's dominions, and even that must have proved very prejudicial to his interest: He would have experienced a humiliating change in situation, had he relinquished the rank and authority he holds in this country to become a dependant on the few, or of Sindia, or any other chief in the neighbourhood. These reasons for discrediting the information were strengthened by the report made of the force then with him, by some hircarrahs whom I had occasion to send into his camp: it did not appear to be greater than what usually attended him when he went on the business of the collections. It struck me at that time, that some interested persons might have misrepresented Ulmafs's conduct to the Resident: but though I gave very little credit to the information, yet, as it comes from the representative of the Honourable Board, I thought it my duty to pay attention thereto, and to take every cautionary measure to prevent or defeat any attempt that might possibly be formed, or even suspected. The inclosed is a copy of Mr. Bristow's letter to Colonel Morgan, which was the principal ground on which I acted.

I have the honour to be,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Futty Ghur,

20th May 1784.

(Signed)

JOHN CUMMING, Col.

Sindia's Camp, 22d May 1784.

Honourable Sir,

I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 16th instant.

In obedience to your commands, I beg leave to inform you, that since the period of Mr. David Anderson's letters to Mr. Bristow of the 29th of October and 12th of November, no facts have come to my knowledge tending to corroborate the suspicion mentioned in them of the existence of any improper correspondence betwixt Almas's Ally Cawn and Mahajee Sindia, or Cheyt Sing; and that as far as I am enabled to form a judgment from circumstances that have fallen under my observation in this camp, I am of opinion, that no improper correspondence or intrigue was maintained directly or indirectly by Mahajee Sindia with Almas's Ally Cawn, in or about the month of December last. Permit me to lay before you some circumstances, which having taken place at that period, will explain to you the grounds on which I have been led to form this opinion.

Early in the month of December last, I received private intelligence from Cawnpore and Lucknow, intimating a strong suspicion that Almas's was then carrying on some dangerous intrigue with Mahajee Sindia, and that he intended speedily to quit the Vizier's dominions, and seek protection from him. From other sources of information, I had at the same time reason to believe that this intelligence, and chiefly the latter part of it, had gained a very general belief amongst the natives of the Vizier's dominions. But as no rumours or reports of this nature prevailed in this camp, and as my information was merely private, I did not think I had sufficient grounds to warrant my taking any public notice of it. I confined myself therefore to several private enquiries, and the result of these tended to confirm me in a belief that there was no just foundation for the opinion of any improper connection or intrigue at that time subsisting between Mahajee Sindia

Sindia and Almas. I afterwards, however, received a letter from Mr. Bristow, which as it marked his belief in the intelligence I had received, seemed to require that I should lose no time in obtaining such an explanation on this subject as might one way or other remove all doubts with respect to it. Accordingly I represented this matter to Mahajee Sindia, through his minister Bow Bucksey, and the answer I obtained was such as to confirm me in the opinion I had before entertained. I beg leave to refer you, for a knowledge of particulars, to the extracts of Mr. Bristow's letter, and my reply, which I have herewith the honour to transmit to you.

I have the honour to be, with the highest respect,

Honourable Sir, &c. &c.

A true Copy.

(Signed) J. A. ANDERSON.

Signed) J. Palmer.

EXTRACT from Mr. Bristow's Letter, dated 10th January, 1784.

Sir,

I have been favoured with your letters of the 25th November, and 20th ultimo, and 3d instant. Considering the subject of the latter as a matter of much importance, I shall communicate its contents to the Honourable Board; and when I receive their commands, will address the Vizier in conformity. I have informed the acting minister that the number of 30,000 Mahrattas will visit Ellahabad this year, and requested he should furnish me with his opinion on the most eligible means of preventing undue exactions, and also obviate commotions natural on the assembling of so numerous a body.

Other circumstances induce my caution; such as, the great power of Almas, the reputed accounts of his connection with Sindia, confirmed by the intelligence formerly conveyed to me by Mr. David Anderson, of messengers continually passing between them through Cheyte Sing; and by letters I have intercepted, it is certain Almas has withdrawn his family and effects from Lucknow, and that Zime Ulabdeen, one of his principal Naibs, has secured a retreat at Colpey for his family.

You will oblige me with your sentiments on these matters, and a communication of such facts as may have come to your knowledge.

EXTRACT from Lieut. James Anderson's Letter, dated January 18th, 1784.

Sir,

I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 10th instant; although I am no stranger to the public reports which have so generally prevailed of late concerning Almas's intention of quitting the Vizier's dominions, and seeking refuge in this camp, yet the whole tenor of Sindia's conduct in his political connection with the English, having been such as to warrant the most perfect confidence in his good faith, I have never supposed that he would yield him protection, in virtual breach of a specific article of the treaty. The circumstances, however, mentioned in your letter, without shaking my confidence in Mahajee Sindia, were, I conceived, sufficient grounds for my taking some steps to remove appearances of so pernicious a tendency. I hinted, therefore, privately to Bow Bucksey, the universal prevalence of these reports; and though I assured him, from a thorough conviction of the stability of Sindia's friendship, I had never suffered them to make any impression on me, yet I suggested to him the propriety of giving me some assurances to prevent the bad effects of the general belief. Bow Bucksey gave me the strongest assurances that Sindia had never offered him protection, and most assuredly would not afford it to him in violation of his friendship to the English, and their ally the Vizier, in case he should attempt to come here. These assurances he has since repeated to me in the name of Sindia, adding, that it was Sindia's intention to write immediately to Gungader Baba, prohibiting him to receive Almas or his family under his protection.

True Extracts.

(Signed) J. A. ANDERSON.

True Copies of the Enclosure in the Governor General's Letter to the Board, dated 20 June, 1784.

E. Hay, Secy.

Agreed,

Agreed, That the following lettter be written to Colonel James Morgan.

Colonel James Morgan, commanding the 2d Brigade.

Sir,

Almas Ally Cawn having been charged with having entertained a design of rebelling against the Nabob Vizier, and of seizing the artillery at Cawnpore during the interval of the relief of the brigades, about the close of last year, we desire that you will inform us whether any thing passed within your knowledge and observation, which appeared to have a relation to such a design, or to prove it.

Fort William,  
Secret Department,  
13th July 1784.

We are, &c.

Agreed, That the following letter be written to the Honourable the Governor General.

Honourable Sir,

We have been honoured with your two letters of the 20th June, and one dated the 27th of the same month.

The Accountant at Lucknow has transmitted to us the accounts between the Vizier and the Company, adjusted to the 31st of May: we sent them to the Accountant General, and desired him to deliver his report on them; he has done so in consequence, and we have the honour to enclose a copy of it. We beg leave to submit to you what the Accountant General suggests in it, with respect to charging to the Vizier's debit the expence of the two Ruffalabs of cavalry which returned with the Bombay detachment, and are now stationed at Cawnpore and Futtyghur, and to request, that when you have agreed with the Nabob upon the monthly sum at which His Excellency should be charged for these troops, from the time they crossed the Jumna, you will be pleased to inform us of it.

A resolution having been passed by Government, on the 24th June 1782, that his Excellency the Vizier should receive credit for half the original cost of the horses belonging to the regiments of cavalry, which were formerly stationed in his dominions, beyond the line of guarantee, but were lately returned within the provinces, we have agreed to credit the Vizier at the same rate for 524 horses belonging to the 1st regiment of cavalry, detached on the service to the west of India, supposing, from the accounts of the Paymaster to the late Bombay detachment, that the regiment consisted of that number when it was sent on service; and we request that you will do us the honour of acquainting his Excellency the Vizier with this intention, and giving the necessary directions on this subject to the Accountant at Lucknow.

We beg leave to submit to you, whether it would not be proper to alter the directions which you have given to Mr. Wombwell, to adjust and settle his accounts at the end of every month, with the acting minister of the Vizier, and to interchange them under their respective seals and signatures, by ordering that such interchange should not be final, until the accounts have been examined and reported on by the Accountant General at the Presidency, to whom they are transmitted monthly, and received the approbation of the Board; as such examination and approval may have the good effect of correcting any errors that may accidentally be committed in the accounts, and prevent references to Government, on occasions which may be disputed by the Vizier's minister, after the accounts have been interchanged, in so formal a manner as is intended between him and the Accountant at Lucknow.

In conformity to the desire expressed in the second letter which you have favoured us with, under date the 20th ultimo, we have called upon Colonel Morgan for his information in respect to the design of Almas Ally Cawn, by stating to him the same question that you have stated to Colonel Ironside and Colonel Sir John Cumming.

We have the honour to be, with great respect,

Agreed.

Signed

E. W.

J. M.P.

J. S.

EXTRACT

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 27th July, 1784.*

The Secretary lays before the Board the following letter from the Accountant at Lucknow.

Sir,

I request you will do me the favour of laying before the Board the accompanying Treasury and Nabob Vizier's accounts for the month of June 1784. I have also the pleasure to enclose Mr. Lepercet's draft on Mr. J. Prinsep of 8 June, in favour of the Governor General and Council, for Ca Sa Rupees

Do. Do. Do.	-	Do. 1st July	15,000
	-		15,000

Lucknow,

I have the honour to be, &c.

15 July, 1784.

(Signed) J. WOMBWELL, Acct.

NABOB

D.

Cr

VOL. IV.

To balance due the 30th May 1784 or 12 Jeite Suddir 1191	—	—	52,43,891	0	0	By amount received. as per the Accountant's treasury account	—	—	3,02,057	3	0
To Army Subsidy.						By balance due 30th June 1784, or 12 Affar Sud.	—	—	54,02,662	4	4
For one brigade, according to the old establishment for June	2,60,000	0	0								
For one regiment stationed at Lucknow, according to the new establishment	25,000	0	0								
For five regiments of sepoys and one company of artillery, under Col. Sir John Cumming	1,45,000	0	0								
To Mirza Saudit Ally's Stipend.				4,30,000	0	0					
For one month, at the rate of 3,00,000 per annum				25,000	0	0					
To Rohilla Stipends.				5,131	8	0					
Paid them for Affar											
To Interest on Mr. Fraser's Bond.											
One month on 1,04,488, the balance due on the bond the 31st May, at 8 per cent.				696	9	4					
							4,60,828	1	4		
Fyzd 16 Sun Sicca Rupees				—	—		57,04,719	7	4		
Balance due on Mr. Fraser's bond, 31st May 1784	1,04,488	0	0								
Deduct the proportion of the receipts that the balance due on the bond bears to the amount due by the Vizier on the 31st May											
	6,018	0	0								
Remains due account the bond 30th June 1784											
Balance due on account the army donation 31st May	5,71,611	0	0								
Deduct the proportion of the receipts that the balance due on the bond bears to the amount due by the Vizier the 31st May 1784											
	32,925	0	0								
Remains due account the donation 30th June				5,38,686	0	0					

Fyzd 16 Sun Sicca Rupees

57,04,719-7 4

When the sum received for the sale of the horses lately belonging to the 1st regiment of cavalry can be ascertained, his Excellency will receive credit for the same.

Lucknow, 1st July 1784, or 13 Affar Sud. 1191.

Errors excepted.

(Signed) J. WOMBWELL, Accountt.

TREASURY ACCOUNT of the Accountant at Lucknow, from the 1st to the 30th June 1784, or from the 13 Jeite Sud. to the 12 Affar Suddie 1191. Cr

To balance remaining in the treasury the 31st of May 1784 or 12 Jeite Suddie 1191	—	—	4,96,529 14 6		
To the Nabob Vizier.					
Received from Hyder Beg Cawn	—	—	3,02,057 3 —		
Luc. Sic. rupees	—	—			
By Fort William Presidency.					
Paid the Honourable the Governor General's order in favour of Dooraker Dofs Mooty Chund, on account of bills of exchange drawn by them in favour of the Chief of Surat on account of the Honourable Company, for St Rs 5,00,000 — —				5,20,000 — —	
Exchange of 4 per Ct 20,000 — —					
Paid by the Governor General's order to Mr. Perieret for his bill on Mr. J. Prin- cep, in favour of the Honourable the Governor General and council, of 8th June 1784 - Calcutta S <sup>a</sup> rupees 15,000 — —				15,825 — —	
Exchange 5½ per Cent. 825 — —					
Paid the Accomptant his salary for June, Calcutta Sicca rupees 2,600 — —					
Additional Batta 5 per Cent. 130 — —				2,730 — —	
Paid the Rohillas for Affar					5,58,555 — —
By the Nabob Vizier.					
Paid the Nabob Vizier.					5,131 8 —
By balance remaining in the treasury the 30th June 1784, or 12 Affar Suddie 1191					5,43,686 8 —
					2,54,900 9 6
Fyza 16 Sun Sicca rupees	—	—	7,98,587 1 6		7,98,587 1 6

Lucknow, 1st July 1784, or 13 Affar Sud. 1911.

Errors excepted,  
(Signed)

J. WOMBWELL, Accr.

Ordered, That copies of the foregoing accounts be sent to the Accomptant General for his information.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 27th July 1784.*

Read the following letter from Colonel James Morgan.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I am now honoured, by your letter of the 13th current, and in reply to it I beg leave to refer you to my letter of the 16th December last, addressed to your Honourable Board, on the subject of Almas's Ally Cawn, and to my letter to Mr. Bristow, copy of which was enclosed to you in my letter above-mentioned; and I beg leave to refer you likewise to a letter of the same date, which I sent to the commander in chief relating to the same subject, and which, as he informed me, was laid before you.

As my sentiments regarding Almas's disposition and intentions are contained and expressed fully in the above-cited letters, I have nothing to add now upon the subject.

But permit me to observe to your Honourable Board, that had I entertained the slightest suspicions of Almas's being disaffected, or having sinister designs, I should not have left any thing to chance, but should have remained at Cawnpore till the third brigade arrived there.

Calcutta,  
15th July 1784.

I have the honour to be, &c.  
(Signed) JAMES MORGAN,  
Col<sup>l</sup> commanding 2d brigade.

Ordered, That Mr. Bristow be directed to inform the Board whether, during his Residence at Lucknow, he had any other reasons than those which he communicated to the Board, for suspecting the fidelity of Almas's Ally Cawn to his Excellency the Nabob Vizier.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Council of Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

1. As the Honourable Board seemed unable to reconcile the propriety or necessity of the question which on the 13th instant I had the honour to propose to them, with the annotation which the Accomptant at Lucknow has subfixed to the Vizier's monthly account current, in obedience to the 3d article of the instructions, which on the 9th March last I recommended should be transmitted to him, it becomes necessary for me to explain those circumstances which have been since made known to me, which rendered that deviation from the original proposition which I made to the Board on this subject, which may be observed on comparing the question submitted to them on the 13th instant, with the instructions transmitted to the Accomptant at Lucknow.

2. Colonel Charles Morgan having, in his general orders of the 13th December 1782, of which a copy accompanied my letter to the Board of the 24th February 1784, intimated that the Candahar chief, Abdul Rehman Cawn, was permitted to draught such horses as he might require for the service of the corps under his command, after the Reffallahs were compleated at the rate allowed by the Nabob Vizier, of 250 rupees for each horse. I therefore concluded, that as there had not been any credit given by the Paymaster to the Bombay detachment for the sale of those horses, in any account which I had then received from him, that it might have been intended by Colonel Morgan to have been passed in account with the Vizier; in which case it is obvious, that a suitable deduction would have been requisite from the whole amount of the credit due to his Excellency for the horses taken from him with the Bombay detachment, for what would have been in fact virtually returned to him; but having received from the military Paymaster General a copy of a letter which had been written to him on this subject by Mr. Bayard, almost immediately after his return to Calcutta, which proving that the horses taken by the Candahars had not been draughted by them in the manner prescribed by Colonel Morgan's orders of the 13th December 1782, but that 151 of them had been purchased by these at public outcry, to the amount of somewhat rupees 21,155, with which the Paymaster had charged himself in his account for the month of August 83 (but lately received). I therefore concluded, that if any credit was to be given to his Excellency for the horses taken with the Bombay detachment, it should be for the whole amount of the value of these; and as I was not possessed of any specific order or directions from the Honourable

Honourable Board, which could enable me to appreciate these, I requested to know whether I might extend the rule adopted by them on the 24th June 1782, for valuing the horses with the 2d and 3d regiments of cavalry, when these were withdrawn from his service, to those with the 1st, when the latter were taken with the Bombay detachment.

3. I trust that this explanation will obviate any incongruity which may appear between the spirit of the question submitted by me to the Board on the 13th instant, and the obedience which has been paid to the 3d article of the instructions which were, in consequence of my recommendation, transmitted to the Accomptant at Lucknow.

4. In my letter to the Board of the 1st April, I suggested the apprehensions which I then entertained of not being able to obtain any precise or accurate information respecting the number of these horse, for which his Excellency should be credited; and although the military secretary, in obedience to the Honourable Board's order, submitted to me many of the monthly returns that had been transmitted by the officers commanding the detachment, and the acting Adjutant General furnished me with an extract from others, I perceived so many contradictions between the numbers stated by some of these, and those which, from a comparison of the casualties and new purchases made, it should seem that they ought to have stated, that I was necessitated to infer, that the number for which his Excellency should have credit, might be stated agreeably to what was charged for, as the pay of those with the detachment, in the first month after its departure from the Owde province; and although I cannot conceive that the military Paymaster General, who will have to adjust the account of these horses on the books of his department, will not effect this with the utmost circumspection, a circumstance which should seem to preclude the necessity of my adverting minutely to matters that may hereafter be more immediately within his official concern than mine, yet there are some circumstances which occurred to me on an examination of these returns, which it might be deemed incumbent on me to point out to the Honourable Board for their immediate information, these I shall now state.

5. It appears, from the accounts of the Paymaster to the Bombay detachment, for the month of May 1778 that there were 524 horses with this detachment when it marched from Fatty Ghar: The Paymaster, in a letter to the military Paymaster General, dated 11th May 1784, acquaints him that no purchases were made to supply the casualties in the first regiment of cavalry, until the year 1782, when Major Hawkins, by General Goddard's order, provided three hundred horses, for which, at five hundred rupees each, he received one lack and fifty thousand rupees; and that in December 1782 the regiment was reduced by Colonel Morgan, and part of it formed into two reffullahs; that the remaining horses were sold at outcry in the camp at Surat to the Candahar corps, and the officers and followers of the army; one hundred and fifty one of these horses were sold to the former, for Surat rupees 21,155, and sixty-six to the latter for 9,032, and that for both of these sums credit had been given in his account current for the month of August 1783.

6. It appears by the return for the month of November 1782, that there were 473 horses mustered on the last of that month, and upon the extract of Colonel Morgan's general orders of the 13th December 1782, that Lieutenants Welsh and Ramsey were permitted to draught the number of horses necessary for forming their respective reffullahs (which I conclude, from the returns of the reffullahs, to be 232) for which, by those orders, they were to be held responsible to the Honourable Company in the average purchase of 300 rupees (of what specie not mentioned) for each horse, until the approbation of the Honourable the Supreme Council should be obtained: Whether this matter was referred to the Honourable Board and received their sanction, or any other determination passed thereon, is a matter which I must leave to their secretaries to point out; it may however be thought proper that I shall observe to the Honourable Board, that I understand that these horses have not yet been paid for.

7. Had Colonel Morgan submitted to the Honourable Board the account promised them in his letter dated 23d March 84, it might have afforded some information respecting the difference between the number of horses disposed of and those borne upon the return on the last day of November 1782; but as he has left Bengal without transmitting this account, I would recommend to the Honourable Board to direct application to be made to Captains Welsh and Ramsey, who now command the two reffullahs formed from the late 1st regiment of cavalry, for an explanation of this difference.

Fort William,  
Accomptant General's Office,  
the 20th July 1784.

A true Copy. E. Hay, Secy.

I have the Honour to be, with the greatest respect,  
Honourable Sir, and Sirs,  
Your most obedient humble Servant,

(Signed) W. LARKINS,

Acct Genl.

EXTRACT

## EXTRACT of the Secret Letter from Bengal; dated 20th August 1784.

2. On this day our Secretary laid before us a letter which he had received from the Accomptant at Lucknow, with sundry accounts, by which it appeared that his Excellency the Vizier was indebted to the Company, on the 31st of May, in the sum of fyzabad 16 fun ficca rupees 52,43,891. 6.

4. A letter is recorded from the Accomptant General, in which he delivers his report upon the accounts received from Lucknow—it attends you a number in this dispatch. We have also the honour to enclose a copy of a letter which we received from the Governor General under date the 20th June, in respect to these accounts; and a copy of our reply to it. The Governor General informed us, under the same date, that he had inquired into the charges preferred by Mr. Bristow, your late Resident at Lucknow, against Almas Ally Cawn; and conceiving that the fairest and best way of coming at the truth of these matters, was to take the evidence of such gentlemen as were capable, from situation, of giving him the most authentic information, he applied to Colonel Ironside, Colonel Sir John Cumming, and Lieutenant James Anderson, copies of whose letters, together with the Governor General's to them, he transmitted to us. The Governor General at the same time submitted to us the propriety of calling upon Colonel James Morgan, who lately commanded your troops in the field, and was now at the presidency, for his information, by putting the same question to him that had been put to Colonel Ironside and Colonel Sir John Cumming:—We acceded to the Governor General's desire, and sent the following question to Colonel Morgan for his reply to it:

“ 5. Almas Ally Cawn having been charged, with having entertained a design of rebelling against the Nabob Vizier his master, and of seizing the artillery at Cawnpore, during the interval of the relief of the brigades, about the close of last year, we desire that you will inform us, whether any thing passed within your knowledge or observation which appeared to have a relation to such a design, or to prove it.”

18. A letter is received from the Accomptant General explanatory of the questions which he proposed for the Board's decision on them, on the 13th instant, in respect to the accounts with his Excellency the Vizier. The enquiry recommended by the Accomptant General to be made of Captains Welch and Ramsay, in respect to the sale of the horses belonging to the cavalry of your detachment which lately returned from the West of India, was immediately ordered.

22. By the Nabob Vizier's account with the Honourable Company, recorded also on this day's proceedings, it appears that his Excellency's debt to the Company amounted to the sum of fyzabad fun ficca rupees 54,02,662. 4. 4, on the 30th of last June.

24. Colonel James Morgan has acquainted us, in reply to our letter to him on the 13th, that he entertained no suspicions of the designs of Almas Ally Cawn to seize on the cantonments at Cawnpore about Christmas last, and to throw off his allegiance to the Vizier; and having referred us to his letter of the 16th December 1783 for his sentiments of the rumour which then prevailed that such were Almas's intentions, we afterwards called on Mr. Bristow, to inform us whether, during his residence at Lucknow, he had any other reasons than those which he communicated to us for suspecting the fidelity of Almas Ally Cawn to the Nabob Vizier.

66. In reply to our orders of the 27th ultimo to Mr. Bristow, that gentleman acquainted us, that he had no other reasons for suspecting the fidelity of Almas Ally Cawn, than those communicated to us in his letters of August 30, 1783, October 4, November 9 and 11, December 13 20 and 22, and January 6 and 11, 1784, which are already before your Honourable Court: Transcripts of these letters, and of Colonel Morgan's letter recorded on our proceedings of the 27th ultimo, have been transmitted to the Governor General.

## EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 17th August 1784.

Read the following letter from Mr. Bristow,

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council, at Fort William.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your commands of the 27th ultimo, and in reply beg leave to inform you, that I had no other reasons for suspecting the fidelity of Almas Ally

Ally Cawn during my residence at Owde, than those I have already communicated to your Honourable Board.—I take the liberty to refer to my correspondence at large on this subject, and in particular to my letters of the following dates:

5th November 1782,  
30th August 1783,  
4th October Do.  
9th November Do.  
11th Do. Do.  
13th December Do.  
20th Do. Do.  
22d Do. Do.  
6th January 1784,  
11th Do. Do.

I have the Honour to be, with  
the highest Respect,  
Gentlemen,

Fort William,  
5th August 1784.

Your most obedient humble Servant,  
(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW.

Agreed, That a copy of the foregoing letter, and of that from Colonel James Morgan on the same subject recorded on the proceedings of the 27th ultimo, be transmitted to the Governor General.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 24th August 1784.*

The Secretary lays before the Board the following letter from the Accomptant at Lucknow, and the accounts enclosed in it.

To Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary.

Sir,

I request you will do me the favour of laying before the Honourable Board the accompanying Treafury and Nabob Vizier's accounts for the month of July.

Accomptant's Office,  
Lucknow, 7th August 1784.

I have the Honour to be,  
Sir,

Your most obedient,  
Humble Servant,  
(Signed) J. WOMBWELL,  
Accountant.

NABOB

NABOB VIZER in account with the Hon. Governor General & Council, from the 1 to the 31 of July 1784, or from the 13 of Affar Suddie to 14 of Sawon Suddie 1191.  
Dr.

To balance due the 30th June 1784, or 12 Affar Suddie 1191	-	-	54,02,662	4	4	By balance due the 31st July 1784, or 14 Sawon Suddie 1191	-	58,63,450	3	10
To Army Subsidy.										
For one brigade, according to the old establishment	2,60,000	0	0							
For one regiment stationed at Lucknow, according to the new establishment	-	25,000	0	0						
For five regiments of sepoy, and one company of artillery, under Col. Sir J. Cumming	-	1,45,000	0	0						
				4,30,000	0	0				
To Mirza Saudit Ally's Stipend.										
For one month, at 3,00,000 per annum	-	25,000	0	0						
To Rohilla Stipends.	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Paid them for Sawon	-	5,131	8	0						
To interest on Mr. Frazer's bond.										
One month on 98,470, the balance due on the bond the 30th June, at 8 per Ct per annum	-	656	7	6						
						4,60,787	15	6		
								58,63,450	3	10
Fyzd 16 Sun Sicca Rupees										
Balance due on Mr. Frazer's Bond the 31st July, 1784	-	98,470	0	0						
Balance due on account of the army donation 31st July	-	5,38,686	0	0						

When the sum received for the sale of the horses lately belonging to the 1 regiment of cavalry can be ascertained, his Excellency will receive credit for them.

Lucknow, 1st August 1784, or 15 Sawon Suddie 1191.

Errors excepted.

(Signed) J. WOMBWELL, Acct.

# TREASURY ACCOUNT of the Accountant at Lucknow, from the 1st to the 31st July, or from the 13 Affar Suddie to the 14 Sawon Suddie 1191.

D.

Cr

To balance remaining in the treasury the 30th June 1784, or 12 Affar Suddie 1191	2,54,900 9 6				
By Fort William Presidency.					
Remitted the Honourable Board the 5th July, Mr. Perrieret's Draft of the 1st July on Mr. Prinleips, for C Rs 15,000 0 0				15,825 0 0	
Exce 5 1/2 per Cent.					
Paid Mr. Thomas his salary as Surgeon, for May, June, and July, at 1,250 C <sup>a</sup> S <sup>a</sup> R <sup>s</sup> per mth.				3,750 0 0	
add Batta 5 per Cent.				187 8 0	
Paid Mr. Wombwell his salary as Accountant for July				3,937 8 0	
C <sup>a</sup> S <sup>a</sup> R <sup>s</sup> 2,600 0 0					
add Batta 5 per Cent.				130 0 0	
By the Nabob Vizier.					
Paid the Rohillas for Sawon				2,730 0 0	22,492 8 0
By balance remaining in the treasury, 31st July 1784, or 14 Sawon Suddie 1191					
					5,131 8 0
					27,624 0 0
					2,27,276 9 6
Fyzd 16 Sun Sicca Rupees	2,54,900 9 6				2,54,900 9 6
Fyzd 16 Sun Sicca Rupees					

(( 172 ))

Lucknow, 1st of August, 1784, or 15th Sawon Suddie, 1191.

Errors excepted.

(Signed) J. WOMBWELL,

Accountant.

Ordered, That copies of the foregoing account be sent to the Accountant General.

*Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 26th August 1784.*

**R**EAD the following letter from the Honourable the Governor General.

Lucknow, 13th August 1784.

To Edward Wheler, Esquire, &c. Council, Fort William.

Gentlemen,

I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 13th Ult<sup>o</sup>, accompanying a report from the Accountant General.

I have communicated to the Nabob Vizier the method proposed by the Accountant General for settling the amount to be brought to his credit on account of the horses withdrawn from the temporary brigade, and sent on service with the late Bombay detachment, and I have directed the Accountant at this station to conform to it, in adjusting the account betwixt the Honourable Company and the Vizier for the present month.

It appears, from a letter which I have received from the Nabob Vizier in answer to the one which I wrote to him by the late Resident of your desire of keeping up the two Rossallahs of cavalry, lately returned from the West of India, at the stations of Cawnpore and Fatty Ghur, and consequently that his approbation of the matter was neither asked nor obtained; under these circumstances, Gentlemen. I feel a reluctance in proposing to the Vizier to admit the charge of these Rossallahs in his accounts. The expence with which his Excellency is already charged has accumulated to so large a sum, that it is only from the greatest and most hearty exertions of his ministers, that I expect it can possibly be liquidated within the term which has been prescribed. In fact the resources of this country are inadequate even to the incumbrance which is now upon them—to increase it by charging his Excellency with the expence of two additional corps, which were never required or consented to, and which we ourselves must be sensible are not necessary for the protection of his dominions, would in my opinion be equally inconsistent with policy and justice. By increasing the difficulties we may lessen the zeal of his ministers; by advancing claims which at best are liable to dispute, we may prejudice the recovery of those to which our right has been admitted; and by over-straining our exactions from this country, we may reduce it to a state of poverty, and render its dependence on us a burthen, instead of a source of relief to the Company. If this claim is to be made, it must be on the plea of conveniency to the Company alone, and not on the grounds of any treaty, or even of mutual expediency, or even of custom. And if this plea should be admitted, what security will the Vizier possess against the extension of such uncertain claims?—he may apprehend that at a future period we may find it equally convenient to charge him with the expence of an additional brigade, or of our whole military establishment.

I think it necessary to explain to you, Gentlemen, that the method which I have directed Mr. Wombwell to adopt, in adjusting the accounts betwixt the Company and the Nabob Vizier, at the end of every month, is not intended to preclude any corrections which may afterwards be made by the Board, or the Accountant General at Calcutta; it is intended to be an adjustment only with the Accountant at this station, in order that the Vizier and his ministers may know from time to time, so far as depends on him, the state of their account with the Company; the necessity of this measure cannot be more strongly pointed out than by referring your attention to the irregularity so strongly exemplified in the state in which I found the accounts at the time of my arrival, when the Vizier knowing that about 33 lacks had been collected by the late Resident during the six months preceding his recall, imagined that so much should have been brought to his credit with the Company, but on enquiry found that only 19 lacks had been inserted in his accounts.

Lucknow,  
13th August 1784.

I have the Honour to be, &c. &c.  
(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

Ordered, That a copy of the foregoing letter be sent to Mr. Bristow, and that he be desired to acquaint the Board why he did not intimate to his Excellency the Vizier the Board's wish, that the two Rossallahs of cavalry which returned with the detachment from the West of India might be kept up at the stations of Cawnpore and Fatty Ghur.

X x

Ordered.

Ordered also, That Mr. Bristow be required to send an immediate reply to the papers transmitted to him under date the 1st of last month, and with it a full explanation of the charges which remain to be accounted for as mentioned in the Governor General's letter of the 14th June, and its enclosures, reciting the authorities on which such explanation is founded.

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*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 2d October 1784.*

The following letter from the Accountant at Lucknow was received on the 15th Ultimo, and the bill which came inclosed in it was immediately sent to the sub-treasurer:

To Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit his Excellency the Nabob Vizier's account with the Honourable the Governor General and council, and my treasury account for the month of August 1784.

You will also please to receive the enclosed draught of Mr. Percuet on Mr. John Prinsep of 5th August, for Calcutta S<sup>a</sup> R<sup>s</sup> 15,000

Accomptant's Office,  
Lucknow, 4th Sept<sup>r</sup> 1784.

I have the Honour to be, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) J. WOMBWELL, Acc.

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Ordered, That the Accounts enclosed in the above letter be entered in the Appendix.

Read the following letter from the Accomptant at Lucknow:

To Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary.

Sir,

I request you will do me the favour of laying before the Honourable Board the accompanying abstracts of my treasury account from the 1st of February to the 31 of August 1784, and of the Nabob Vizier's account from the 1st June to 31 August 1784.

Acc<sup>t</sup>'s Office,  
Lucknow, 17th Sept<sup>r</sup> 1784.

I have the Honour, &c.

(Signed) J. WOMBWELL, Acc.

Ordered, That copies of the accounts enclosed in the foregoing letter be sent to the Accomptant General, and that the originals be entered in the appendix.

Nabob

D.

To balance, due the 31st July 1784, or 14th of Sawm Suddie 1191	58,63,450	3	10	By amount received, as per the Accomptant's treasury account	—	23,48,308	2	7
To Army Subsidy.				By Horses,				
For one brigade, according to the old establishment: 2,60,000	0	0	0	For half of the original cost of 524 horses lately belonging to the 1st regiment of cavalry, detached on service to the West of India, at S <sup>a</sup> R <sup>s</sup> 250 per horse	—	1,31,000	0	0
For one regiment, according to the new establishment, stationed at Lucknow	25,000	0	0	By balance due the 31st August 1784, or 15th Bhaadoon Sud. the last day of Fuffelly year 1191.	—	—	—	—
For five regiments of sepoy, and one company of artillery, under Col. Sir John Cumming	1,45,000	0	0					
To Mirza Sawdit Ally's Stipend.	4,30,000	0	0					
For one month, at 3,00,000 per annum	25,000	0	0					
To Rohilla Stipends.								
For the month of Bhaadoon	5,131	8	0					
To Interest on Mr. Frazer's Bond.								
One month on 98,470, the batta due on the bond the 31st July, at 8 per cent. per annum	656	7	6					
	4,60,787	15	6					
Fyzd 16 fun sicca rupees	63,24,238	3	4	Fyzd 16 fun sicca rupees	—	—	—	—
Balance due on Mr. Frazer's bond the 31st July 1784	98,470	0	0					
Deduct the proportion of the receipts that the balance due on the bond bears to the amount due by the Vizier the 31st July	41,637	0	0					
Remains due on account the bond, 31st August	56,833	0	0					
Balance due on account the army donation, 31st July	5,38,686	0	0					
Deduct the proportion of the receipts that the balance due on account the donation bears to the amount due by the Vizier, the 31st July	2,27,778	0	0					
Remains due on account the donation, 31st August	3,10,908	0	0					
Lucknow, 1st Sept 1784, or the 1st of Koar Buddie 1192.								
	24,79,308	2	7					
	38,44,950	0	0					
	63,24,238	3	4					

(Errors excepted.) (Signed) J. WOMBWEEL, Accomptant



ABSTRACT Nabob Vizier's Account with the Honourable Governor General and Council, from the 1st June to the 31st August, 1784, or from the 13th Jeite Suddee to the 15th Bhaudon Suddee, the last day of the Fufully Year 1191, Cr

Vol. IV.

Dr	To balance remaining due the 31st May, 1784, or 12th Jeite Sud. 1191, as per the adjusted account signed and interchanged between his Excellency the Nabob Vizier, and the Honourable the Governor General the 20th June, 1784 - - - - -	52,43,891 6 0	By amount received from. Hyder Beg Cawn by the Accountant - 12,02,057 3 0 From ditto by bill of exchange on Calcutta 10,55,000 0 0 From ditto, by Major Sands - - - 3,93,308 2 7	26,50,365 5 7	
	To Army Subsidy. For the months of June, July, and August, at 4,30,000 per month - - - 12,90,000 0 0		By Horses. For half cost of 524 horses lately belonging to the 1st regiment of cavalry sent on service to the West of India, at Sicca rupees 250 per horse - - - 1,31,000 0 0		27,81,365 5 7
	To Mirza Saudit Ally's Stipend. For 3 months, at the rate of 3,00,000 per annum - - - 75,000 0 0		By balance due the 31st August 1784, or 15th Bhaudon Sud. the last day of the Fufully year 1191 - - -		38,44,930 0 9
	To Rohilla Stipends. Paid them for Affar, Sawon, Bhaudon - 15,394 8 0 To interest on Mr. Frazer's Bond - - 2,009 8 4	13,82,404 0 4			
	Fyzd. 16 Sun Sicca Rupees - - -	66,26,295 6 4	Fyzd 16 Sun Sicca Rupees - - -		66,26,295 6 4

Lucknow, the 1st Sept. 1784, or 11 of Koor Bud. 1192.

Errors excepted,

(Signed) J. WOMBELL, Accountant.

ABSTRACT

# ABSTRACT TREASURY ACCOUNT of the Accountant at Lucknow, from the 1st February to the 31st August 1784, or from the 10th Maug Suddie to the 15th of Bhaudon Sud, the last Day of the Fuffully Year 1191.

D.

C.

To the Nabob Vizier.			By Fbrt William Presidency.		
Recd from Hyder Beg Cawn, in cash 28,70,111 11 10			Remitted the Honourable Board bills of exchange on Calcutta, for C. S. R. 15,00,000 15,54,630 0 3		
In bills on Calcutta,			Ditto - Ditto 45,000 47,475 0 0		
Ca Sa Rs 15,00,000 15,54,630 0 3	44,24,741 12 1		Paid for bills of exchange, in favour of the Chief of Surat - Sa Rs 5,00,000 0 0	16,02,105 0 3	
Ditto from Ditto by Major Sands - - -	5,92,924 5 4		Paid the Paymaster General - 20,41,623 5 2	5,20,000 0 0	
Ditto from Ditto, Almas Ally Cawn 7,57,732 11 7			Paid Major Sands, Paymaster Governor General's Detachment - 4,84,332 12 3		
Ditto from Ditto, by Col. Chas Morgan 96,674 9 3	8,54,407 4 10		Paid Col Cha. Morgan, commanding the Bombay detachment - 96,674 9 3		
Ditto from Lolla Butchraje - - -	2,84,149 12 6		Paid Lieut. Prole, Deputy Paymaster Bombay Detachment - 2,66,849 4 6		
Ditto from the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn's stand the Nabob's Treasury - - -	4,73,582 15 3		Paid Major, Sands, Paymaster, Governor General's Durbar charges - - -	28,89,479 15 2	
On account the Tuncaw on the Sezawul of Ferokeabad, sent by Mr. Bristow to Mr. Melvill, Paymaster Colonel Cummings's Detachment - 15887 10 2			Paid Mr. T. P. Scott - - -	2,98,024 12 1	
Batta of 5. 9. 3 per cent. on 4,70,296 3 3, the balance remaining in the treasury, May 31, 1784 - 26,233 11 3	26,233 11 3		Paid allowances to the Assistants of the late Resident, the Surgeon, the Accountant, and his Assistant - 58,620 0 0	2,32,055 10 5	
	66,57,927 7 5			56,00,285 5 11	
			Paid by the Nabob Vizier.		
			Paid Abdul Rheman Cawn - - -	1,25,000 0 0	
			Paid the Rohillas - - -	41,052 0 0	
				1,66,052 0 0	
			By balance remaining in the treasury the 31st August 1784, or 15th Bahdoon Suddie, the last day of the Fuffully year 1191 - - -	57,66,337 5 11	
				8,91,590 1 6	
			Fyzd 16 Sun Sicca Rupees - - -	66,57,927 7 5	

Lucknow,  
1st Sept 1784, or 1st Koar Buddie 1192.

(Errors excepted.)  
(Signed),

J. W Q M B W E L L,  
Account.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 2d October, 1784.*

Read the following Letter from the Governor General, dated Lucknow, 26th August, 1784.

*Extract.*

Having accomplished, to my own satisfaction, the objects for which I visited this capital by your authority, I shall depart from hence on my return to-morrow; of which intention I judge it proper to give you this notice, and with the first leisure that I may have after my departure, will transmit to you a detail of the arrangements which have been adopted for the security and regular discharge of the Vizier's debt to the Company.

*Consultation, 8th October, 1784.*

*Benares, 20th Sept. 1784.*

To Edward Wheler, Esquire, &c. Council, Fort William.

Gentlemen,

I avail myself of the first leisure which has been afforded me since my departure from Lucknow, to advise you of the progress and close of my proceedings at that capital, and the state of your claims on the Nabob Vizier.

You will be pleased to recollect, that on the 27th December last the Board agreed to the removal of Mr. Briffow, and to the suspension of his office, upon the express conditions that the Nabob Vizier would engage to discharge the whole amount of his arrears and growing debt to the Company in the course of that and the ensuing Fushlee year, ending on the 20th August 1785; that he would produce the security of creditable shroffs for the same; and that I would bear the whole responsibility for the rectitude of the measure. That these conditions having been performed, and the Nabob having further solicited the aid of my presence at Lucknow, for the confirmation of his authority, and for the construction of such arrangements as might be necessary to ensure the complete execution of his engagements, I, with the authority of the Board, departed from the Presidency on the 17th of February, and arrived at Lucknow on the 27th of the month ensuing.

I found the season of collection already past, and a long interval approaching of total inertia: This was a circumstance which I should have much regretted, had I sought only to gain an ostensible credit from the instant acquisition of large payments on my first outset. But my objects were of a more permanent kind, and, if I may be allowed to apply such a term to acts reflective on my own credit, of a more liberal principle. Those objects were threefold; first, to obtain the complete discharge of the arrears and growing debt of the Nabob Vizier to the Company, within the stipulated period of the ensuing year; secondly, to assist in putting his finances in such a state as should enable him, with ease, to acquit himself of the fixed monthly engagements as they became due, and to possess a sufficiency in reserve for the necessary claims of his own administration; and the third, and not least essential to the interests and honour of our Government, to fix him in the independent possession of his own dominion, by precluding, as the consequence of the two former, every plea for the exercise of a double authority in the interference of a British agent.

Upon the same principle I applied the sums which the last scanty payments of the collections, and the voluntary contribution of Almass Ally Cawn, enabled the acting minister to pay into your treasury at Lucknow, to the discharge of the heavy arrears due, and running on, with the hazard of the most licentious consequences to the brigade, and other divisions of the army stationed within these provinces, in remittances to Bombay, made with your express concurrence, and in official disbursements, not unaware of the distresses which the commerce of the Presidency sustained from the scarcity of current specie, nor of the eclat which I might have personally derived from a transportation of the whole or a large portion of the amount in treasure to Calcutta. I should have suppressed this intimation, which is foreign from the immediate purpose of this letter, had it not been privately suggested to me, that I had disappointed the popular expectation by not adopting the policy which I had, on the conception of better grounds, rejected.

The points which solicited my earliest attention, were the formation of the settlement of the approaching year, and the retrenchment of expences. The latter, a work in itself of great delicacy and obstruction, depended essentially on the former; and that on contingencies which imposed on

on me the mortification of suffering a long and indefinite term to pass in suspense and inaction, before it could possibly be undertaken. The public revenue had declined, with the failure of the cultivation, in three successive years, and all the stores of grain which the providence of the husbandmen had, as I am informed it is their custom, in defiance of the vigilance of their Aumils, clandestinely reserved for their own use, were of course exhausted; and another year of dearth, which the habit of repeated disappointment had taught the people to expect, would have proved no less fatal to the population than to the actual collections. In this state of apprehension no man of credit would accept of a charge of the collections on positive engagement. It was therefore necessary to wait the commencement of the season in which the rains usually fall, before any steps could be taken in the ensuing settlement—nor was it till the 10th of July that the rain began to fall. From that date to the close of the last month, it has been almost incessant, and the expectations of all men are raised to the production of a more abundant harvest than any that has been known in the course of many past years. The minister, aided by this providential blessing, has concluded a settlement with men whom he has reported to me to have been selected from superior knowledge and responsibility, and whom I believe generally to merit his report of them, for a period of five and some of six years, on an encreasing Jumma, viz.

Jumma 1192	—	—	2,20,65,639	13	0
1193	—	—	2,44,50,504	6	3
1194	—	—	2,66,05,326	6	3
1195	—	—	2,87,11,326	6	3
1196	—	—	3,06,93,035	10	9

The enclosure, No. 1, contains an estimate, taken at a large allowance, of the whole of the Nabob's debt for the year 1192; and, No. 2, the provision made and agreed for the complete discharge of it by monthly kistbundy or instalments.

Though it is unnecessary to enter into a detail of my transactions, since these have no other relation to the interests of the Company than in their final effect, yet there is one condition of the settlement of which you ought to be apprized, as it essentially connects the confirmation of the settlement itself with the interests of the Company:—The Aumils demanded that a clause should be inserted in their engagements, that they were to be in full force for the complete term of their leases, provided that no foreign authority was exercised over them; or, in other words, that their engagements were to cease whenever they should be interrupted in their functions by the interference of an English agent. This requisition was officially notified to me by the acting minister, and referred to me in form by the Nabob Vizier for my previous consent to it: I encouraged it, and I gave my assent to it. For the particulars of this transaction I refer you to my correspondence with the Nabob Vizier upon the subject in the enclosure, No. 3.

The account, No. 4, comprises the state of the Nabob Vizier's debt at the close of the last year, and completes the information which I have professed to communicate of the state of this concern. From this account you will observe that the Vizier has fulfilled his engagement down to the time of my departure from Lucknow; and that the balance due from him to the Company, which at the end of January last stood, in the books of the Accountant General of Fort William, at current rupees 72,95,656. 4. 7, was reduced, at the end of August, to Sa Rs 38,44,930. 9, including the sum of Sa Rs 19,00,441. 11. 5, charged to the Nabob's debit, in conformity to the books of the Accountant General.

In the estimate, No. 1, I have struck out the charge of the detachment commanded by Colonel Sir John Cummings, from the 1st January 1785, the Nabob having a second time remonstrated against its continuance, both as being unnecessary, and a burthen which the impoverished state of his revenue could not bear, and therefore required that it should be wholly withdrawn; I have for these reasons given my assent to it, and have left a written order to that effect in the hands of Major Palmer, to be transmitted to Colonel Cummings as soon as an adequate force shall have been provided for the defence of that frontier by detachments from the Nabob's own battalions. The relief, whenever it takes place, may lead to a saving in our own expences, by the further reduction of the army; for I must revert on this occasion to the opinion which I have had occasion more than once before to declare, that the Company will gain nothing by the continuance of the detachment at the Nabob's charge, in its present station, since he has not the means of defraying it; and whether it remains on account of the Company, or be continued to swell the Nabob's with an accumulating debt which he cannot pay, its effects on the Company's funds will prove the same, while it holds out a deception to the public, and furnishes a plea for the future usurpation of the sovereignty of the country, and the private embezzlement of its treasures.

In the other disbursements of the Nabob Vizier, both personal and public, considerable savings have been made: but these would have proved insufficient to fulfil the Nabob's engagements, with-  
out

out other expedients. The Begums, and the Nabob Sâla Jung, to whom their jagheers have been restored, conformably to the Company's orders, and more so to the inclinations of the Nabob Vizier, (who went to Fyzabad for the express purpose of making a respectful tender of them in person to the Begums) have made a voluntary concession of a large portion of their respective shares; and the Nabob Saadut Ally Cawn has been required to submit, but I will not say voluntarily, to a tax of one lack of his allotted income, not so much for the increase which so small a sum would make to the public treasury, as to preclude the just cause of offence which might have been taken at his being partially exempted. The ministers have in like manner contributed their share of relief, by the resignation of three-fourths of their ruffoom or commission of office. The like concession was made by them in the adjustment of the last year's accounts, to the amount of seven lacks, deducted from the full sum of their commission, which was 9,98,519 rupees. In both instances the sacrifice was entirely spontaneous, and even unsolicited. The difference which yet remained to complete the payments of the year, has been provided for by an accommodation with the shroffs, and may be considered as an anticipation of the next year's income, which, if the system which has been thus far happily established remains unmolested, it will easily bear.

I have a singular pleasure in adding, that I have received the strongest assurances from the Nabob himself of his determination to abide by the late arrangement; and have equal ground to expect every degree of support which can be given to it by the influence of the first characters of his family, who are all warmly and zealously interested in the event of it.

To conclude; I have thus far attained the objects of my mission, and provided, in the means and course of one year, for the complete discharge of a debt which has been the accumulation of many, notwithstanding the difficulties which I have had to surmount, in the lasting effects of the failure of the natural rains in the three preceding years, and in still worse, from a cause which created a total suspension of all the springs of Government during the course of the last.

I reserve my final report, and other observations upon it, to the period of my departure from this place.

I have already advised you of my departure from Lucknow on the 27th ultimo. The Nabob Vizier accompanied me some stages of my journey by land, and was with difficulty dissuaded from proceeding with me to Benaris, having provided boats for his conveyance. The Prince is here, and will, I fear, prove a cause of my detention beyond the term required by the settlement of this province, which you have been pleased to entrust to my charge, and of which little remains to complete it; nor will this delay be wholly unserviceable to my late transactions at Lucknow, as I am still near enough to attend to the first effects of their execution, and to interpose my influence for the removal of any obstructions to which they are or may be liable; but I do not apprehend that my stay will exceed the middle of next month.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed)

W. HASTINGS.

A true Copy.

E. Hay, Secry.

ESTIMATE of the Company's Demand against the Vizier, from the 1st July 1784 to the End of August 1785.

						Lucknow Rupees.
Balance due 30th June 1784						54,02,662 4 3
July.						
	Army Subsidy	—	—	—	4,30,000 0 0	
	Mirza Saudet Ally	—	—	—	25,000 0 0	
	Rohilla Stipend	—	—	—	5,131 8 0	
August						
		—	—	—	4,60,131 8 0	
		—	—	—	4,60,131 8 0	
						9,20,263 0 0
Deduct Amount paid in July and August						63,22,925 4 3
						4,00,000 0 0
						59,22,925 4 3
Demand against the Vizier, calculated to the end of August, September, October, November, and December.						
	Army Subsidy, for 4 months, at 4,30,000 per month	—	—	—	17,20,000 0 0	
	Mirza Saudet Ally, for 4 ditto, at 16,666 per month	—	—	—	66,664 0 0	
	Rohilla stipend, 4 months, at 5,131. 8 per month	—	—	—	20,526 0 0	
						18,07,292 0 0
						77,30,217 4 3
Demand against the Vizier, calculated to the end of December, January, February, March, April, May, June, July, and August 1785, viz.						
	Cawnpore Brigade, at 2,85,000, for 8 months	—	—	—	22,80,000 0 0	
	Mirza Saudet Ally, at 16,666, for 8 ditto	—	—	—	1,33,333 0 0	
	Rohilla stipend, at 5,131. 8 ditto ditto	—	—	—	41,052 0 0	
						24,54,385 0 0
Pay due to Abdul Rheman's corps, to 30th August 1784, the interest on Mr. Frazer's bonds, from 1st July 1784 to 30th August 1785, and interest on Gopaul Doss's debt, &c. calculated at						3,15,397 11 9
Total demand against the Vizier, calculated to the end of August 1785						1,05,00,000 0 0

A true Copy.

E. HAY,  
Secy.

KISTBUNDEE,

KITSBUNDEE, settled on the 26th of Bhaudon, answering to the 26th of August, for payment of the debt due from the Nabob Vizier to the Company, within the year 1192 Fuffullee.

* In ready money	—	—	—	9,00,000	0	0	
In bills	—	—	—	10,00,000	0	0	
							19,00,000 0 0
To be paid to the end of Coar	—	—	—	—	—	—	5,00,000 0 0
Cautic	—	—	—	—	—	—	5,00,000 0 0
Augun	—	—	—	—	—	—	5,00,000 0 0
To be paid to the end of Poos; viz.							
In money	—	—	—	5,00,000	0	0	
In bills on Surat and Calcutta	—	—	—	15,00,000	0	0	
							20,00,000 0 0
To be paid to the end of Mang	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,25,000 0 0
Phaugon	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,25,000 0 0
Chey	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,25,000 0 0
Byfaac	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,25,000 0 0
To be paid to the end of Jeyt; viz.							
In money	—	—	—	3,25,000	0	0	
Bills on Surat and Calcutta	—	—	—	10,00,000	0	0	
							13,25,000 0 0
Affar	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,25,000 0 0
Sawun	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,25,000 0 0
Bhaudon.							
In money	—	—	—	3,25,000	0	0	
In bills on Surat or Calcutta	—	—	—	15,00,000	0	0	
							18,25,000 0 0
Lucknow rupees	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,05,00,000 0 0

\* N.B. This is exclusive of the sum of 4,00,000 rupees which had been paid in July and August, and was deducted from the Company's demand at the time when this Kistbunde was settled.

A true Copy. E. Hay, Secy.

Received 25th August 1784.

From his Highness the Nabob Vizier to the Honourable Governor General.

Usual introduction.

The former circumstances of my loss of authority, the power of the English gentlemen over the Aumils of my government, the derangement of my country, and the disorders which on these accounts had pervaded the whole of my affairs, have been fully evident. No one had an opportunity of regulating my country, and my officers endured various injuries and false accusations, under constant dread for their honour. You have now, from your bounty and kindness, restored to me my authority over my country, and in this short period of time the ease and security of the public and the Aumils, and the order which has taken place in my country, are fully evident; you have yourself beheld, and from your own bounty, every one passing his time in honour, reputation, and satisfaction, each day as a festival, and each night as a rejoicing. The revenues have been paid with that exactness, that not an instant of delay has occurred. Now that a plan of settlement for the country, and the arrangement of affairs for five years, has taken place, the Aumils, from remembrance of former injuries, request from me satisfactory assurances; observing, that if there shall be no interference of the gentlemen, and the authority and power of the Sirkar

Sirkar remain fixed, they will with satisfaction of mind engage in the business of the Sirkar, the arrangement of the country, and making good the revenues of government; but if, as formerly, they shall be troubled by the interference of gentlemen, the conduct of affairs and arrangement of the country cannot be effected by them; accordingly I have sent you a copy of the request written by all the Aumils, and the assurances of satisfaction they demand from me—it will arrive enclosed in this letter. Order in my affairs has, by the divine blessing and your kindness, taken place, and I hope in future further favours from you. I am every way ready to pay the money of the Company in the manner which has been settled: By God's help it shall be paid, and no deviation occur. For the satisfaction of the Aumils, I will do as you may direct. You will from your kindness have in view, that if any usurpation of my authority shall happen, the plan which has in your own presence been established for the regulation of my country will be ruined, and the Aumils will one and all retire from employment. In such a case I shall be helpless, and must come with my family to Calcutta,

Concludes as usual.

A true Copy. E. HAY, Secy.

Sowal of Almas Ally Cawn, and the other Aumils of the Government of the Nabob Vizier ul Mamalek Asoph ul Dowlah, Behadur, as enclosed in his letter of the 7th of Showal, or 25th August 1784.

Formerly the English gentlemen behaved to us in such a manner, without cause or fault on our sides, that there was no leisure for us to manage the country with satisfaction. Such severities and false accusations were used towards us, that we were in constant dread for our honour and lives. From your Highness, our Sovereign's loss of authority being helpless, we had resolved, in order to save our lives and honour, on retiring from employment.

Now that by the divine blessing, and the bounty of the Governor General, Mr. Hastings, the authority of your Highness in the country is re-established, we have agreed, according to your Highness's orders, to an arrangement of the country for five years; by the divine blessing, and your Highness's auspices, the country will be settled in a proper manner, and flourish, and the revenues of the Sirkar be fixed. We dread lest hurt should again happen to your Highness's, and that of the gentlemen take place; in such case the management of the country cannot be undertaken by us; we will then retire from employment, and attend in menial services, as becomes our duty, on your Highness. We hope, from your Highness's goodness and benevolence, that satisfactory assurances on this point will be superscribed by your Highness.

A true Copy. E. HAY, Secy.

Dispatched August 16th 1784.

From the Honourable the Governor General to his Highness the Nabob Vizier.

Your gracious letter, intimating the "correction of past disorders, and the restoration of the affairs of your government in so short a space of time, owing to the establishment of your Highness's authority, the ease of the public, and the satisfaction of the Aumils, confirmed in such a manner that the revenues have been paid without trouble; also, that now, as a plan for the regulation of the country, and settlement of affairs for five years, has taken place, the Aumils, looking back to former injuries, want assurances from your Highness, so that if the influence of English gentlemen shall not prevail, and the authority of your Highness remain fixed, they may with satisfaction of heart engage in managing their countries, and making good the revenues of the Sirkar; with a copy of the request of all the Aumils to one effect; which they have presented to your Highness," having made its gracious arrival, informed me fully on every point.

I regard the welfare of his Highness's house, and the payment of the Company's debt, prior to every other object. As your Excellency has given a written agreement and kistbundee for the payment of the Company's money, use your endeavours to pay it accordingly; set your mind at ease on every point, and give assurances satisfactory to your Aumils, that in case of the payment of the Company's debt agreeable to the stipulated engagements, there never can happen the most trifling innovation on this plan and settlement, or on your Highness's authority, no difference can in any way happen—which I have already written to you before.

Usual conclusion.

A true Copy. E. HAY, Secy.

ABSTRACT



Buddie to the 15th Bhaudoon Suddie, the last Day of the Fu

Dr

\* N. B. Under the  
paid in

D. A.

A true Copy.  
E. HAY,  
Secy.

Cr

# EXTRACT

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*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 8th October 1784.*

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Bristow.

**Y**OUR secretary's letter, of the 26th of August, covering the copy of one from the Honourable the Governor General, directs me to acquaint you "why I did not intimate to the Vizier your wish that the two Roffallahs of cavalry, which returned with the detachment from the West of India, might be kept up at the stations of Cawnpore and Futtu Ghur."

I have the honour to inform you, that no wish or resolution of your Honourable Board to the above effect was ever communicated to me. As I was apprehensive that your commands on this subject might by some accident have miscarried, I applied to your secretaries Messrs. Bruere and Hay, by whom I am informed that they had no order to communicate any such resolution to me, and that it passed subsequent to my recall.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 1st November 1784.*

**R**EAD the following letter from the Governor General.

Benares, 1st October 1784.

To Edward Wheler, Esq. &amp;c. Council, Fort William.

Gentlemen,

Whilst I was employed in settling the accounts betwixt the Company and the Vizier, one circumstance escaped my attention which I think worthy of consideration; I mean the hardship which the Vizier sustains from the army subsidy being kept up as its original rate, although the number of troops employed by us for the defence of his dominions has been greatly reduced—That you may have the subject fully before you, I will beg leave to recite the progressive arrangements which have been made relative to the subsidy.

In the treaty concluded betwixt the late Nabob Sujah ul Dowlah and myself at Benares, in September 1773, it was settled that when the Vizier had occasion to demand the aid of our troops, he should pay for the expence of a brigade 2,10,000 rupees of the Oude currency per month; this was grounded on an accurate estimate of the actual expence, and it was particularly specified that a brigade should consist of 2 battallions of Europeans, 6 battallions of sepoy, and 1 Company of artillery. The number of sepoy which, according to our establishment at that time, formed a battalion, was 640; so that the whole number of sepoy, of which a brigade ought to have consisted, was 3,840.

The rate of the subsidy was afterwards raised, by a subsequent treaty with Asoph ul Dowlah, from 2,10,000 to 2,60,000 rupees per month, but without any alteration being made respecting the number of troops.

In September 1781, when I met the Vizier at Chunar, an alteration had taken place in our establishment; and, instead of battallions of 640 men, our brigades were composed of regiments of 1,000. It was then stipulated between the Vizier and me, that he should pay for no more troops than the number of European infantry, artillery, and sepoy agreed for, under the title of one brigade, with the late Nabob Sujah ul Dowlah, with one additional regiment at Lucknow, for the protection of the office of the Resident, for which a separate payment was to be made, of rupees 25,000.—According to this agreement, which continues in force, the number of sepoy stationed in the Vizier's provinces ought to be as follows:

Number stipulated for on account of the old subsidy	-	-	3,840
Additional regiment	-	-	1,000
			<hr/>
			4,840 sepoy.
			<hr/>

The force actually maintained for some time after the execution of the above agreement consisted of 5 regiments at Cawnpore, and 1 at Lucknow, composed of 1,000 men each; so that the Vizier had in fact a greater number of men during that period than the quota stipulated.

But when a general reduction of our army took place, on the conclusion of peace, each regiment was reduced from 1,000 to 700 men; and the force in native troops, which has since been, and still continues in Owde, is only as follows:

5 Regiments at Cawnpore, of 700 each	-	-	-	3,500
1 Regiment at Lucknow	-	-	-	700
				<hr/>
				4,200 sepoy

So that the Nabob has only 4,200 of our sepoy, instead of 4,840; the deficiency, being 640, is exactly equal to the number which composed a battalion on the former establishment, and only 60 less than one of our present regiments.

Neither the Vizier nor any of his ministers have ever mentioned to me this deficiency: But it is not the less our duty to take it into consideration. In all our adjustments of accounts with the Vizier for many years back, we have been regulated by the strictest regard to justice; and the Vizier, on his part, has on every occasion relied most implicitly on our justice, as well as on the accuracy of our Accountant General. Let us then confirm that confidence which is so happily reposed in us, by pointing out mistakes, even although we must be losers by correcting them.

It will perhaps be alledged, that although the number of sepoy is less, the expence incurred by us for our troops at Cawnpore is greater than it was at the time when the treaty was made with Sujah ul Dowlah, which has continued the Basis of all subsequent agreements: And farther that although the number of sepoy is less, the number of staff and officers is greater. It may also be alledged, that although the force at Cawnpore, since the reduction, has been less than what is prescribed by treaty, yet before that, for a considerable time, it was greater: But these arguments are in fact groundless; for the Nabob might with truth reply, that he has no concern with our arrangements; that it is the number, and not the expence, of our troops, which is specified in the treaty; and that it is the number of sepoy, not of officers and staff, which forms their effective strength: That if the number of our sepoy was greater before the reduction than was prescribed by the treaty, it was occasioned by an act of our own, and not in consequence of his request; and that if we were to proceed on such rigid principles with him, he might with equal justice swell his pleas, by pointing out the deficiencies in our corps of European infantry and artillery, the former of which has never at any time consisted of half its proper complement. In speaking of the troops stationed with the Vizier, I confined myself to the brigade at Cawnpore, and regiment at Lucknow, without taking notice of the force under Sir John Cumming at Futty Ghur, because it forms rather a temporary detachment than a regular standing army; although I must observe, that as a similar reduction has taken place in the regiment of which it was composed, without any diminution being admitted of the subsidy which was settled for defraying the expence of it, an additional argument may be deduced from it, to shew that the Vizier has a right to some redress from our Government.

As the easiest and most equitable method of reconciling our present arrangements to strict justice, I would recommend that the regiment at Lucknow should be again included under the troops for which the original subsidy was settled; that credit should be given to the Vizier in our accounts for the amount of the subsidy with which he has been separately charged for that regiment from the time of reduction; and that, to entitle us to receive this separate subsidy in future, an additional regiment should be sent up to Cawnpore, which will restore matters as nearly as our present establishment will admit to the footing of the treaty, and will render the force at Cawnpore a respectable army fully adequate to the defence of the Western frontier.

I have the Honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

Ordered, That the foregoing letter lie for the consideration of a fuller Board.

EXTRACT

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 1st November.*

Read the following letter from the Accountant at Lucknow.

Sir,

I have the pleasure to enclose my treasury, and the Nabob Vizier's account for the month of September, which I request the favour of your laying before the Honourable Board.

Lucknow,  
5th October 1784.

I have the Honour, &c.  
(Signed) J. WOMBWELL,  
Accountant

*Conf. 23 Nov. 1784.*

To Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary.

Sir,

I have the pleasure to enclose your draughts of Mr. Perceret on Mr. Prinsep, in favour of the Honourable Governor General and council, for Calcutta Sicca rupees fifteen thousand each; also my treasury and the Nabob Vizier's accounts for the month of October 1784, which I request the favour of your laying before the Honourable Board.

I have the Honour to be,  
Sir,

Your most obedient  
and humble Servant,  
(Signed) J. WOMBWELL,  
Accountant.

Accountant's Office,  
Lucknow, 4th November 1784.  
A true Copy.

E. Hay,  
Secy.

TREASURY

TREASURY ACCOUNT of the Accountant at Lucknow, from the 1st to the 30th September 1784, or from the 1st of Koar Suddie to the 1st of Cautick Sud. 1192.

Dr

To balance remaining in the treasury the 31st August 1784, or 15 Bhaudre Sud, the last Fuffula year 1191	—	—	8,91,590 1 6	By Fort William Presidency.	Paid the Paymaster General, as per his receipt of the 30th September, CRs 7,21,500	6,50,000 0 0	
To the Nabob Vizier.	—	—	3,14,000 0 0	Paid Mr. Thomas his allowance as Surgeon, for the months of August and Sept 1784, at CRs 1,250 per Ct	2,500 0 0		
Received from Hyder Beg Cawn	—	—		Ditto, Mr. Wombwell, Accountant, his pay, &c. September	2,600 0 0		
				Cr S <sup>a</sup> R <sup>s</sup> 5,100 0 0			
				Add Batta 5 per Cent.	255 0 0		
				Paid Mr. T. Wheeler his allowance as assistant to the Accountant for September	1,000 0 0		

Dr

Cr

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To balance due the 31st August 1784, or 15 Bhaudoon Sud. the last of the Fussallee year 1191	-	-	38,44,930	0	9	By amount received, as per the Accountant's treasury account	-	-	3,14,000	0	0
To Army Subsidy.						By balance due 30th Sept. 1784, or 1st Caitick Sud. 1192	-	-	42,44,040	7	0
For one brigade, according to the old establishment	2,60,000	0									
For one regiment stationed at Lucknow, according to the new establishment	25,000	0									
For five regiments of sepoy's and one company of artillery, under Col. Sir John Cumming	1,45,000	0	0								
To Mirza Saudit Ally's Stipend.			4,30,000	0	0						
For one month, at 30,000 per annum			25,000	0	0						
To Rohilla Stipends.											
Paid them for Koor			5,131	8	0						
To amount paid Abdul Rheman Cawn			2,52,600	0	0						
To Interest on Mr. Frazer's Bond, one month on 56,833, the batta due on the bond the 31st August, at 8 per cent. per annum			378	14	3						
									7,13,110	6	3
Fyzd 16 Sun Sicca Rupees									45,58,040	7	0
Balance due on account Mr. Frazer's bond, 31st Aug. 56,833	0	0									
Deduct the proportion of the receipts that the balance due on the bond bears to the whole amount due by the Nabob the 31st August											
Balance due on the bond 30th Sept.			52,192	0	0						
Balance due on account the army donation 31st Aug. 1784											
Deduct the proportion of the receipts that the balance due on account the donation bears to the whole amount due by the Nabob the 31st Aug. 1784											
Balance due account the donation 30th Sept.			2,85,518	0	0						

Fyzd 16 Sun Sicca Rupees -

45,58,040 7 0

Lucknow, 30th Sept. 1784, or 1 Caitick Suddie 1191.

Errors excepted.

(Signed) J. WOMBWELL, Accountt.

NABOB VIZIER in Account with the Honourable Governor General and Council, from the 1st to the 31st of October, or from the 2d of Cautic Bud. to the 3d of Augun Bud. 1192.

Dr						Cr
To balance due the 30th of September 1784, or 1st of Cautic Bud. 1192	—	—	—	42,44,040	7	0
To Army Subsidy.	—	—	—	—	—	5,00,000 0 0
For one brigade, according to the old establishment	—	—	2,60,000 0 0	—	—	—
For one regiment stationed at Lucknow, according to the new establishment	—	—	25,000 0 0	—	—	—
For five regiments of sepoy, and one company of artillery, under Col. Sir J. Cumming	—	—	1,45,000 0 0	—	—	—
To Mirza Saudit Ally's Stipend.	—	—	—	4,39,000	0 0	—
For 2 months, at the rate of 2 lacks per ann.	—	—	33,333 5 4	—	—	—
Deduct, One month's stipend charged in the month of September, at 3 lacks per annum	—	—	25,000 0 0	—	—	—
To Rohilla Stipends.	—	—	—	8,333	5 4	—
Paid them for Cautic	—	—	—	5,131	8 0	—
To Interest on Mr. Frazer's Bond.	—	—	—	—	—	—
One month on 52,192 the balance due on the bond the 30th September, at 8 per cent.	—	—	—	347	15 1	—
Fyzabad 16 sun sicca rupees	—	—	—	4,43,812	12 5	—
Balance due on Mr. Frazer's bond the 30th September	—	—	52,192 0 0	—	—	—
Deduct, the proportion of the receipts that the balance due on the bond bears to the amount due by the Vizier the 30th September	—	—	6,149 0 0	—	—	—
Balance due on the bond the 31st October 1784	—	—	—	—	—	—
Balance due on account the army donation 30th September	—	—	2,85,518 0 0	—	—	—
Deduct, the proportion of the receipts that the balance due on account the donation bears to the amount due by the Vizier the 30th September	—	—	33,637 0 0	—	—	—
Balance due on account the donation 31st October	—	—	—	2,51,881	0 0	—
Fyzabad 16 sun sicca rupees	—	—	—	46,87,853	3 5	—
	—	—	—	—	—	46,87,853 3 5

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To balance remaining in the treasury the 30th of September 1784, or 1st of Cautic Buddie 1192 -

To the Nabob Vizier.

Received from Hyder Beg Cawn the Kift for Cautic. -

Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca Rupees -

1784.  
Octr 31. Balance due the Shroffs, on account of the money borrowed from them in June 1783  
L<sup>w</sup> S<sup>a</sup> R<sup>s</sup> 12,61,055 7 6

By Fort William Presidency.  
Paid the Paymaster General, as per his receipt of the 31st Octr, for Curr<sup>t</sup> R<sup>s</sup> 1,44,300 -

Paid Mr. J. P. Scott, as per his receipt of 4th Octr Remitted to the Honourable Board Mr. Perceret's draft on Mr. Prinsep, of 1st Sept<sup>r</sup> - C<sup>a</sup> S<sup>a</sup> R<sup>s</sup> 15,000 -  
Do — Do of 1st October - - - 15,000 -

Exchange at 5½ per Cent. - C<sup>a</sup> S<sup>a</sup> R<sup>s</sup> 30,000 -  
- - - 1,650 -

Paid Mr. Blain his salary, as furgeon, for October C<sup>a</sup> S<sup>a</sup> R<sup>s</sup> 1,250 -  
Do Mr. Wombwell, Do as Accountant, for October - - - 2,600 -

C<sup>a</sup> S<sup>a</sup> R<sup>s</sup> 3,850 -  
Batta 5 per Cent. 192 8 -

Ditto Mr. T. Wheeler, his salary, as assistant to the Accountant, for October - - - -

By the Nabob Vizier.  
Paid the Rohillas, for Cautic - - - -

By balance remaining in the treasury the 31st of October 1784, or the 3d of Augun Buddie 1192 - - - -

Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca Rupees. -

1,30,000 - -  
1,60,000 - -

31,650 - -

4,042 8 -

1,000 - -

2,66,692 8 -

5,131 8 -

2,71,824 - -

5,19,679 9 6

7,91,503 9 6

Lucknow, 1st November 1784, or the 4th of Augun Bud. 1192.

Errors excepted.

(Signed) J. WOMBWELL, Acct.

A true Copy.

E. Hay, Secr.

## EXTRACT of the Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 13th November 1784.

Par. 7. We have the pleasure to acquaint you that we have received information from the Honourable Governor General, by a letter dated the 26th of August, that he had accomplished to his own satisfaction the objects for which he visited Lucknow, and meant to leave that place on his return to Calcutta on the 27th; and that he would with the first leisure transmit to us a detail of the arrangements which have been adopted for the security and regular discharge of the Vizier's debt to the Company, which was reduced, at the end of last month, to the sum of Fyzabad 16 Sun S<sup>a</sup> R<sup>s</sup> 41,87,853. 3. 5.

9. On the 13th of August the Governor General acquainted us, that he had communicated to the Nabob Vizier the method proposed by the Accountant General for settling the amount to be brought to his Excellency's credit on account of the horses withdrawn from the temporary brigade, and sent on service with the late Bombay detachment, and had directed the Accountant at Lucknow to answer to it. He at the same time informed us, that he felt a reluctance in proposing to the Vizier to admit the charge of two ruffalabs of cavalry, lately returned from the West of India in his accounts, as the late Resident at his Excellency's court had neglected to give him any information of our desire to keep them up, and had neither asked nor obtained his approbation of the measure.

10. Having called on Mr. Bristow to account for the cause of this seeming neglect of his duty he has acquainted us that no orders to that effect had ever been communicated to him.

12. Since the arrival of the Governor General at Behares, he has furnished us with a detail of his transactions at Lucknow, which will be found on our consultation of the 8th of October. From this account it appears, that the claim of the Company on the Nabob Vizier to the end of August 1785, will amount to R<sup>s</sup> 1,05,00,000, including the present balance, for the entire liquidation of which the Nabob Vizier has made a provision by monthly instalments, viz.

In Ready Money and Bills	-	-	-	-	19,00,000
To be paid to the end of our September and October	-	-	-	-	5,00,000
October and November	-	Cautic	-	-	5,00,000
November and December	-	Aughun	-	-	5,00,000
December and January	-	Poos	-	-	20,00,000
January and February	-	Maug	-	-	3,25,000
February and March	-	Phu Gun	-	-	3,25,000
March and April	-	Cheyte	-	-	3,25,000
April and May	-	Bysaak	-	-	3,25,000
May and June	-	Jeyte	-	-	13,25,000
July	-	Affan	-	-	3,25,000
July and August	-	Sawan	-	-	3,25,000
August and September	-	Bhadoon	-	-	18,25,000
Fyzabad 16 Sun S <sup>a</sup> R <sup>s</sup>					1,05,00,000

17. The Governor General arrived at the Presidency on the 4th, and resumed his seat at this Board on the 11th instant.

## EXTRACT of a Letter from the Governor General, dated 22d November 1784.

In my address of the 20th of March 1783, I took the liberty to request that you would be pleased to nominate a successor to my office, and declared my resolution to resign it after the lapse of such an interval of time as was necessary for the operation of this notice; still, in dutiful submission, leaving to your option the alternative of commanding my services to a more lengthened period, if you should account them of importance equal to the means which I stated as requisite for their effectual application to your interests.

Little

Little presuming on the effect of this reservation, I had fixed on the beginning of this year for the term of my departure; but an event soon followed, which compelled me to suspend, and at length totally to forego, the purpose which I had formed. I could not, consistently with the principles of public duty or private honour, abandon the Nabob Vizier, his country, and your interests in it, to the rapacity of an individual.

Though denied the support of my associates in council, I knew the ground on which they stood to be too weak for them to maintain it long, in an unequal conflict against such advantages as I possessed in the justice of the cause itself, and I relied on their final acquiescence; if I could not prevail on them to co-operate with me for the redress of such notorious and complicated wrongs, I yielded to the impulse with a sacrifice, which to those who know the habits of my private life will have appeared the strongest evidence of the purity of my intentions, for they were equally repugnant to my interest and peace of mind, and adopted with a responsibility which exposed my public character to the most desperate contingencies. I did not think it necessary to inform you of this change of my resolution; it told itself, and I assured myself that the declaration which I had made would produce my early relief. But in the reference which I made to you on the occasion, in my letter of the 20th of October 1783, I very pointedly alluded to the certainty of its effect, by apprizing you of the impossibility (for such I considered it) of my remaining to receive your reply.

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EXTRACT of the Secret Letter from Bengal, dated the 8th December 1784.

Par. 2. We had the honour to acquaint you, in our last address, that the Governor General arrived at the Presidency on the 4th ultimo, and resumed his seat at the Board on the 11th. The same letter conveyed to you the substance of a narrative which the Governor General had transmitted to us, under date the 20th of September, of the progress and close of his proceedings at Lucknow. This narrative includes, with other matters, a state of your claims on the Nabob Vizier from the 1st of July 1784 to the end of August 1785, being Lucknow rupees 1,05,00,000, on account of the provision made for the complete discharge of them within that period, and a report of the settlement concluded by the minister for a period of five, and in some instances of six years, on an increasing jumma. Copies of the Governor General's letter, and of the accounts and papers enclosed in it, attend you numbers in the packet.

3. Your Honourable Court has been advised that in a subsequent letter from the Governor General, bearing date the 1st of October, he stated to us the hardships which the Vizier sustains from the army subsidy's being kept up at its original rate, although the number of your troops employed for the defence of his dominions had been greatly reduced, and that the Governor General had proposed, as the easiest and most equitable method of reconciling our present arrangements with strict justice, that the regiment stationed at Lucknow should be included in the number of troops for which the subsidy was settled; that the Vizier should be allowed credit for the amount of the subsidy with which he had been separately charged for that regiment, from the time of the reduction of your military establishment; and that to entitle you to receive this separate subsidy in future, an additional regiment should be sent to Cawnpore.

4. The proposition thus submitted to us by the Governor General, lay for consideration when we had last the honour of addressing you, but it has since been taken up, and written opinions have been delivered on it by the several members of the Board: copies of these opinions are transmitted to you, and include another subject of discussion, viz. the recall of your troops, under the command of Sir John Cumming from Futty Ghur, as agreed by the Governor General on a representation made to him by his Excellency the Vizier. We beg leave to recommend these minutes to the attentive perusal of your Honourable Court.

10. It appears, by an account which we have lately received from the Accountant at Lucknow, that the sum due from the Vizier on the 31st of October, was reduced to Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca Rupees 41,87,853. 3. 5. A copy of Mr. Wombwell's letter, and his account of the state of the treasury at Lucknow, go numbers in the packet.

---

Conf. 14 December 1784.

I have perused with the utmost attention the Governor General's letter of the 1st of October last, on the subject of the Vizier's subsidy, and sent in circulation.

VOL. IV.

3 D

I agree

## EXTRACT of the Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 13th November 1784.

Par. 7. We have the pleasure to acquaint you that we have received information from the Honourable Governor General, by a letter dated the 26th of August, that he had accomplished to his own satisfaction the objects for which he visited Lucknow, and meant to leave that place on his return to Calcutta on the 27th; and that he would with the first leisure transmit to us a detail of the arrangements which have been adopted for the security and regular discharge of the Vizier's debt to the Company, which was reduced, at the end of last month, to the sum of Fyzabad 16 Sun Sa Rs 41,87,853. 3. 5.

9. On the 13th of August the Governor General acquainted us, that he had communicated to the Nabob Vizier the method proposed by the Accountant General for settling the amount to be brought to his Excellency's credit on account of the horses withdrawn from the temporary brigade, and sent on service with the late Bombay detachment, and had directed the Accountant at Lucknow to answer to it. He at the same time informed us, that he felt a reluctance in proposing to the Vizier to admit the charge of two ruffalabs of cavalry, lately returned from the West of India in his accounts, as the late Resident at his Excellency's court had neglected to give him any information of our desire to keep them up, and had neither asked nor obtained his approbation of the measure.

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In Ready Money and Bills	-	-	-	-	19,00,000
To be paid to the end of our September and October	-	-	-	-	5,00,000
October and November	-	Cautic	-	-	5,00,000
November and December	-	Aughun	-	-	5,00,000
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17. The Governor General arrived at the Presidency on the 4th, and resumed his seat at this Board on the 11th instant.

## EXTRACT of a Letter from the Governor General, dated 22d November 1784.

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Little presuming on the effect of this reservation, I had fixed on the beginning of this year for the term of my departure; but an event soon followed, which compelled me to suspend, and at length totally to forego, the purpose which I had formed. I could not, consistently with the principles of public duty or private honour, abandon the Nabob Vizier, his country, and your interests in it, to the rapacity of an individual.

Though denied the support of my associates in council, I knew the ground on which they stood to be too weak for them to maintain it long, in an unequal conflict against such advantages as I possessed in the justice of the cause itself, and I relied on their final acquiescence; if I could not prevail on them to co-operate with me for the redress of such notorious and complicated wrongs, I yielded to the impulse with a sacrifice, which to those who know the habits of my private life will have appeared the strongest evidence of the purity of my intentions, for they were equally repugnant to my interest and peace of mind, and adopted with a responsibility which exposed my public character to the most desperate contingencies. I did not think it necessary to inform you of this change of my resolution; it told itself, and I assured myself that the declaration which I had made would produce my early relief. But in the reference which I made to you on the occasion, in my letter of the 20th of October 1783, I very pointedly alluded to the certainty of its effect, by apprizing you of the impossibility (for such I considered it) of my remaining to receive your reply.

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EXTRACT of the Secret Letter from Bengal, dated the 8th December 1784.

Par. 2. We had the honour to acquaint you, in our last address, that the Governor General arrived at the Presidency on the 4th ultimo, and resumed his seat at the Board on the 11th. The same letter conveyed to you the substance of a narrative which the Governor General had transmitted to us, under date the 20th of September, of the progress and close of his proceedings at Lucknow. This narrative includes, with other matters, a state of your claims on the Nabob Vizier from the 1st of July 1784 to the end of August 1785, being Lucknow rupees 1,05,00,000, on account of the provision made for the complete discharge of them within that period, and a report of the settlement concluded by the minister for a period of five, and in some instances of six years, on an increasing jumma. Copies of the Governor General's letter, and of the accounts and papers enclosed in it, attend you numbers in the packet.

3. Your Honourable Court has been advised that in a subsequent letter from the Governor General, bearing date the 1st of October, he stated to us the hardships which the Vizier sustains from the army subsidy's being kept up at its original rate, although the number of your troops employed for the defence of his dominions had been greatly reduced, and that the Governor General had proposed, as the easiest and most equitable method of reconciling our present arrangements with strict justice, that the regiment stationed at Lucknow should be included in the number of troops for which the subsidy was settled; that the Vizier should be allowed credit for the amount of the subsidy with which he had been separately charged for that regiment, from the time of the reduction of your military establishment; and that to entitle you to receive this separate subsidy in future, an additional regiment should be sent to Cawnpore.

4. The proposition thus submitted to us by the Governor General, lay for consideration when we had last the honour of addressing you, but it has since been taken up, and written opinions have been delivered on it by the several members of the Board: copies of these opinions are transmitted to you, and include another subject of discussion, viz. the recall of your troops, under the command of Sir John Cumming from Futty Ghur, as agreed by the Governor General on a representation made to him by his Excellency the Vizier. We beg leave to recommend these minutes to the attentive perusal of your Honourable Court.

10. It appears, by an account which we have lately received from the Accountant at Lucknow, that the sum due from the Vizier on the 31st of October, was reduced to Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca Rupees 41,87,853. 3. 5. A copy of Mr. Wombwell's letter, and his account of the state of the treasury at Lucknow, go numbers in the packet.

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Conf. 14 December 1784.

I have perused with the utmost attention the Governor General's letter of the 1st of October last, on the subject of the Vizier's subsidy, and sent in circulation.

VOL. IV.

3 D

I agree

I agree with the Governor General, that the Vizier's implicit reliance in the accuracy and justice of the accounts which our Accountant General makes out against his government, should encourage us to confirm the Vizier's confidence, by pointing out mistakes, even although we must be losers by correcting them. Yet the very distressed state of the Company's finances renders it necessary that we should desire every aid which we can in justice from the Vizier's alliance.

I am not clearly informed, whether the amount of the subsidy now charged for the brigade stationed at Cawnpore, together with the subsidy paid for the regiment stationed at Lucknow, is superior to the actual charges of that brigade and regiment, on the establishments of their present strength.

I wish the Accountant General would make out an accurate calculation on these questions, exclusive of the contingent or incidental charges of these troops on service, which are, I believe always charged to the Vizier.

Relative to the other consideration in the Governor General's letter, whether the addition of another regiment to the brigade at Cawnpore, together with the regiment at Lucknow, will render the force at Cawnpore "an army fully adequate to the defence of the Western frontier," it would, I think, be proper to take the opinion of the Commander in chief.

(Signed) J. M. P.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,  
Secy.

Enclosed in Mr. Macpherfon's Minute.

Annual Amount of the Cawnpore brigade, and Sir John Cumming's detachment (the regiment at Lucknow being deducted)	- - - - -	S <sup>a</sup> Rs	48,60,000
Annual amount of the Cawnpore brigade, and the Lucknow regiment included,		S <sup>a</sup> Rs	34,20,000
Annual Amount of Sir John Cumming's Detachment	- - - - -	S <sup>a</sup> Rs	17,40,000

Mr. Stables,

I have read with attention the Governor General's letter, sent in circulation. In the present distress, I cannot assent to any reduction in the subsidy from the Nabob Vizier; besides, when the expence of military stores, cattle, camp equipage, and other incidental expences, are considered for the brigade at Cawnpore, I believe that the subsidy is not more than the real expence to the Company.

In regard to the recall of Sir John Cumming's detachment, I request that the Commander in chief may be called upon to give his opinion on the subject before any step is taken. I am the more anxious for this, from the large armies that are said to be collected near Agra, and the general confusion that prevails among the commanders.

(Signed) J. S.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,  
Secy.

30th November 1784.

The Governor General can have no objection to the reference proposed to be made to the Accountant General, to ascertain the difference which will remain in the expence to be charged to the

the Vizier for the troops at Cawnpore, and the regiment at Lucknow, by proportioning the demand of subsidy to the reduction of strength of the Sepoy corps, in the augmentation of which the charge of each had been raised, this being the scope of his proposal.

Respecting the repeal of the Governor General's order, for the recal of the detachment under the command of Colonel Sir John Cumming from Futtighur, the Governor General takes the liberty to remark, that it is not before the Board, his order for the recal of that detachment, being an Act decidedly passed by him in conformity to his instructions and powers, and only revocable on proof that he has exceeded or misapplied those powers; but if the Board have such a design in contemplation, as appears by their minutes, he requests that it may be stated in terms, as also the reference which they may propose to make to the Commander in chief, to whose judgment, in every point of military knowledge, he shall always pay as it is due, the utmost deference, but cannot yield to him or to any other, the credit of a more competent information of that state of our political affairs, which requires that it be first ascertained as the ground for any question relative to the station or operation of our troops.

That as the interval is short, which remains for the dispatch of the Surprise, the Governor General thinks this question is of so much importance to the interests of the Company, that he makes it his earnest request to the Members of the Board, that they will bring it to an early decision before the close of the packet, for the information of the Court of Directors.

A true Copy.

E. H A Y,

Secy.

Mr. Macpherson,

There is certainly no motion before the Board for revoking the orders left by the Governor General, for withdrawing the detachment under the command of Sir John Cumming, at Futtighur. The Governor General declares, that the issuing of those orders was an Act passed decidedly by him, in virtue of the powers which he had received from the Board; the responsibility of the act therefore rests so far with the Governor General acting on his credentials.

I was not present at the Board when those credentials were granted, yet I am not the less disposed to respect their authority, that the Member who particularly supported them cannot now be present. I own a reluctance to recur to such discussions, and especially as the Governor General's exercise of his commission in Owde is stated to the Company for their judgment on it, in his own letters transmitted to the Board, and through them to the Court of Directors.

In matters on which the members of the Board may entertain different sentiments, I could for my own part wish, that in our present reduced numbers every subject which did not demand a necessary and immediate decision, were left in reference to the Company's opinion.

The question, whether the addition of another regiment of sepoy to the Cawnpore brigade, together with the regiment at Lucknow, would form a sufficient force for the defence of the Western frontiers, arises from the Governor General's letter of the 1st of October, sent in circulation; and is certainly a proper field for the opinion of the Commander in chief.

The Governor General's agreement with his Excellency the Vizier, to withdraw from his pay and dominions the detachment commanded by Sir John Cumming at Futtighur, was announced in his letter to the Board of the 20th of September, which arrived when Mr. Wheeler was ill at Ganetty: there was no full Board to discuss the subject till lately. A similar agreement was made with the Vizier in 1781. The object of the Board's present consideration is, in my opinion, whether, from the actual situation of the country powers on the frontier, it would be *now expedient* to carry the order for withdrawing those troops into execution. It is not a question, whether the Governor was empowered to make such agreement with the Vizier; for, on the supposition that he saw the agreement a proper measure, and had stipulated for it, I should be sorry (even if his powers did not authorize the execution of it without the sanction of the Board) that we should propose to repeal the act by any formal act of ours. Indeed I should be sorry to repeal the formal act of any agent much inferior to the first officer and member of Government.

I wish

I wish that the situation of affairs would admit of our fulfilling the agreement immediately. I have already observed that it is similar to that which took place in 1781, and which seemed to meet the approbation of the Court of Directors; but the present state of the times, or of our finances, may render the immediate execution of it inexpedient—whether it is so or not, is a consideration which I wish to see discussed as a question, and the sooner it is discussed the better. I am ready to believe, that one powerful army in the Vizier's country would be sufficient; and that if we could reduce any supernumerary or superfluous force we may have at present in that country, and without creating a charge of any part of their expence upon the Company, the experiment might be tried; but official and professional lights, together with those we may receive of the state of the powers on the frontier, are necessary guides to our resolutions on such important matters.

It has occurred to me that the Fox packet, by which we have been promised final orders relative to the affairs of Owde and this government, may bring us those orders very speedily: and as her arrival may be nearly coincident with the period assigned for the removal of Sir John Cumming's detachment, I take the liberty to suggest, that this measure, and every question on the subject of it, may be suspended until then. In the mean time we may be carrying on the reduction of our military expences within the provinces as expeditiously as possible, and as fast as our treasury will permit us to discharge the arrears of the corps to be reduced.

(Signed) J. M'PHERSON.

A true Copy. E. Hay, Secy.

*Conf. 14 December 1784.*

I have read the Governor General's minute of the 4th of December, and have considered its propositions with the utmost attention. It opens a prospect and view of affairs well worthy the consideration of the Company, and should be recommended to their particular attention.

That the opinion of the Commander in Chief should be taken, and have the weight which the members of the Board may affix to it, on considering the political state of affairs on our frontiers, seems generally admitted. There may not be time to send it by this dispatch to the Company.

I beg leave to adhere to my former proposition, of leaving the question relative to the recall of the detachment under Sir John Cumming suspended till the arrival of the Fox packet, and by that time our treasury and that of the Vizier may be in a situation to disband the detachment, if it is resolved to reduce it; and we may be better informed relative to Scindia's real views and situation.

Should the Seiks invade the Vizier's country, we must repel them; and the Shah Zada, with Sindia's support, might be of use on the occasion; but until such invasion I am, for my part, averse to commence any hostilities against them, though I believe they may become in time a formidable power.

I shall readily agree to any mode the Governor General may wish to adopt in his explanation to the Vizier, that the delay in recalling the detachment is not a repeal of his agreement with him for that purpose, but a delay occasioned by the new turn affairs have taken on our frontiers, and till we receive advices from Europe that are soon expected.

(Signed) J. MACPHERSON.

I agree to the opinion delivered by Mr. Macpherson.

(Signed) J. STABLES.

True Copies.

E. Hay,  
Secy.

*EXTRACT of Company's Letter to Bengal, dated 10th December 1784.*

Par. 1. We have received a letter from our Governor General, dated Lucknow, 30th April 1784, with a postscript, dated 13th May.

2. It

2. It is our intention to give the earliest consideration to the several important points which form the subject of this letter; but as we are anxious not to delay the sailing of the vessel which carries these dispatches, we shall in the present moment content ourselves with expressing to you our fixed and unalterable determination to abide by the just and pacific system respecting the native Princes of India, which the late act of Parliament has pointed out to us; acquainting you, that any deviation from it, in the conduct of our servants, will not fail to incur our highest displeasure.

3. We find it necessary to require you to transmit to us a distinct account of the proceedings of our Governor General at Lucknow.

5. We cannot close this subject without expressing the great satisfaction we feel at the payment of so large a share of the Nabob's debt, stated to be made without adding to the distresses of those provinces; and we trust that such wise and temperate regulations will be adopted by our Governor General as may ensure a proper and speedy liquidation of the whole, with a due attention to the above important consideration.

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*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 20th December 1784.*

Read the following letter from Major Gilpin.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I do myself the honour of laying before your Honourable Board the accompanying bills, and also the correspondence between Mr. Middleton, your late Resident at the Nabob Vizier's court, Mr. Johnson, acting Resident, and myself, in consequence of his successor in office, Mr. Bristow, refusing to discharge the amount of them, as I trust, when you are informed of the circumstance that occasioned my present claims, that your Honourable Board will find no difficulty in admitting the justice of my demands. It were needless for me to urge any arguments in support of my claims, as Mr. Middleton's letter will, I hope, fully obviate any that may be made of the propriety of them. Permit me however to observe, that Mr. Middleton's agreement with me for any contingent expences incurred in performing the service I was sent upon in the Nabob Vizier's country, ought to be considered as a contract, and was intended to prevent many heavy contingent charges that his Excellency the Nabob would otherwise be liable to; and it appears by Mr. Johnson's letter, that his Excellency saw it in this light, from his ready concurrence in passing my bills.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) MARTIN GILPIN,

Major Com<sup>t</sup> 23d Regiment

Sepoys, 1st Brigade.

Berhampore,  
the 1st December 1784.

Ordered, That a copy of Major Gilpin's letter be transmitted to the committee of accounts, with the several papers and bills enclosed in it, which are as follow; and that the committee be acquainted with the Board's pleasure, that the several bills be passed agreeably to their vouchers; but that the presentation of them at this late period, or to the Governor General and Council, is irregular, and the Board direct, that their indulgence to Major Gilpin, in passing this objection, may not be considered to operate as a precedent for the determination on such claims as are similar to his, and may be made in future.

Copy of Major Gilpin's letter to Mr. Nathaniel Middleton, dated the 31st December 1781.

Mr. Middleton's reply to it, of the same date.

Major Gilpin's bills for allowances, in lieu of contingent charges, for October, November, December 1782; and July, August, and September 1783.

Mr. Johnson's letter to Major Gilpin, dated 24th July 1782.

Major Gilpin's bills for tent allowance for July, August, September, October, November, and December 1782.

TREASURY ACCOUNT of the Accountant at Lucknow, from the 1st to the 31st of October 1784, or from the 2d Cautick Buddie to the 3d of Aughun Bud. 1192.

Dr

Cr

To balance remaining in the treasury the 30th of September 1784, or 1st of Cautick Buddie 1192 -				
To the Nabob Vizier.				
Received from Hyder Beg Cawn the Kift for Cautick				
	,503 9 6		By Fort William Presidency.	
			Paid the Paymaster General, as per his receipt of the 31st of October, for cur <sup>t</sup> 1,44,300	1,30,000 0 0
			Paid Mr. J. P. Scott, as per his receipt of 4th October -	1,00,000 0 0
			Remitted the Honourable Board Mr. Perceret's draft on Mr. Princep, of 1st Septem. - C <sup>a</sup> S <sup>a</sup> R 15,000 0 0	
	5,00,000 0 0		Ditto Do. Do. 1st October 15,000 0 0	
			C <sup>a</sup> S <sup>a</sup> 30,000 0 0	
			Ex <sup>e</sup> 5½ per c. 1,650 0 0	31,650 0 0
			Paid Mr. Blaine his salary, as surgeon, for October - C <sup>a</sup> S <sup>a</sup> R. 1,250 0 0	
			Ditto Mr. Wombwell Do. as accountant, for October - - - 2,600 0 0	
			C <sup>a</sup> S <sup>a</sup> R. 3,850 0 0	
			Batta 5 per c. 192 8 0	4,042 8 0
			Ditto Mr. T. Wheler his salary as asst to the acct, for Oct.	1,000 0 0
			By the Nabob Vizier.	
			Paid the Rohillas for Cautick - - - -	2,66,692 8 0
			By balance remaining in the treasury the 31st October 1784, or 3d of Aughun Buddie 1192 - - -	5,131 8 0
			Fyzd 16 fun sicca rupes -	2,71,824 0 0
	7,91,503 9 6			5,19,679 9 6
				7,91,503 9 6

1784  
Oct. 31st. Balance due to the Shroffs on account of the money borrowed from them in June 1783 L<sup>w</sup> S<sup>a</sup> R. 13,61,055 7 6

*To the Honourable Court of Directors of the Honourable United East India Company.*

Benares, 1st October 1784.

Honourable Sirs,

I HAVE the honour to send you a duplicate of my last address, and a copy of a letter to the Council, dated the 20th of September last, containing the report of my proceedings, and of the state of your claims on the Nabob Vizier to that period, being within three days of the close of the Fusselee year: this is so full as to render any further information on that subject unnecessary. The Nabob Vizier is so sensible of the just and disinterested conduct which I have observed towards him, and possesses, if I may credit appearances amounting to the strongest evidence of which such a conclusion is capable, so entire a confidence in my intentions respecting his concerns with the Company, that I have on my part an equal reliance on his steady support of the arrangements which have been formed under my inspection, both for the administration of his revenue, and the discharge of his debt to the Honourable Company depending on it. He has given me the firmest assurances of this, and I have every reason to expect that the influence of the most respectable persons of his family will be employed to counteract every other which may tend to warp him from it. I am sorry to say, that such an assistance was wanting; as the Nabob, though most gentle, in his manners, and endowed with an understanding much above the common level, has been unfortunately bred up to habits that draw his attention too much from the care of his own affairs, and often subject him to the guidance of insidious and unworthy confidants. This is one motive of my intention of making a longer stay at Benares than is necessary for the settlement of this Zemindary, which is already nearly concluded, that I may be at hand to counteract any attempt to defeat the effect of my proceedings at Lucknow: But I believe that the precaution, though dictated by prudence, will prove unnecessary.

My only remaining fear is, that the members of the Council, seeing affairs through a different medium from that through which I view them, may be disposed, if not to counteract the system which I have formed, to withhold from it their countenance and active support. While I myself remain, it will be sufficient if they permit it to operate without interruption; and I almost hope that in the event of a new administration of your affairs which shall confine itself to the same forbearance, and manifest no symptoms of intended interference, the objects of my arrangements will be effectually attained; for I leave them in the charge of agents whose interests, ambition, and every prospect of life, are interwoven with their success, and the hand of Heaven has visibly blessed the soil with every elementary source of progressive vegetation. But if a different policy shall be adopted; if new agents are sent into the country, and armed with authority for the purposes of vengeance or corruption, for to no other will they be applied; if new demands are raised on the Nabob Vizier, and accounts overcharged on one side, with a wide latitude taken on the other, to swell his debt beyond the means of payment; if political dangers are portended, to ground on them the pleas for burthening his country with unnecessary defences and enormous subsidies; or if, even abstaining from direct encroachment on the Nabob's rights, your government shall shew but a degree of personal kindness to the partizans of the late usurpation, or by any constructive indication of partiality and disaffection furnish grounds for the expectation of an approaching change of system;—I am sorry to say, that all my labours would prove abortive; for the slightest causes will be sufficient to deject minds sore with the remembrance of past conflicts, and to elevate those whose only dependence is placed in the renewal of the confusion which I have laboured with such zeal to eradicate, and will of course debilitate the authority which can alone ensure future success. I almost fear that this denunciation of effects, from causes so incompetent as they will appear to those who have not had the experience which I have had of the quick sensibility which influences the habits of men placed in a state of polity so loose, and subject to the continual variations of capricious and despotic authority, will be deemed overcharged, or perhaps void of foundation; nor, if they should come to pass, will it be easy to trace them with any positive evidence to their connection; yet it is my duty to apprize you of what I apprehend, on grounds which I deem of absolute certainty, may come to pass, and I rely on your candour for a fair interpretation of my intention.

It is not quite foreign from this doctrine, as it will be highly acceptable to your Honourable Court to be informed, that during my residence (and I may take the date further back, to the expectation of it at Lucknow) the most perfect tranquility prevailed, and it still subsists in every part of the dominions of the Nabob Vizier, a circumstance unexampled in the annals of that government, either in any former period, or during that in which our influence has been blended with its own constitution; and this I attribute exclusively to the prevalency of opinion, or, to apply the general maxim, to the universal conviction of a power and a disposition actually existing, the one equal to the suppression of any movement of sedition, and the other determined to the punishment of it: Nor has my time been unprofitably bestowed, even in the long interval in which

I was

I was obliged to wait for the first appearance of the rainy season, before I could see the beginning of the new settlement. It afforded leisure for the constitutional administration of the country to recover its authority; it impressed the minds of all men, that the government which I represented was determined to render it permanent; and it enabled me to establish my own influence and ascendant over the minds of the Nabob, his ministers, and his people, on the grounds of their confidence in me. This was an easy line, for it required nothing to be done, nothing but forbearance: I daily conferred with the ministers, I received their reports, I gave my advice; but I left every thing wholly to their management. I assumed no appearance of command, I exercised none, not even in private; I issued not a single warrant, nor suffered any individual of my dependants to use my name, even in the common Bazar, with any privilege distinct from the rights of any other inhabitant. The Nabob met me on the border of his territory, our troops and baggage were intermixed on the road, and our camps often joined: I and my people, who were numerous, with a large society of English gentlemen, which was unavoidable, lived in the same city five months, and of that time within the same common enclosure of the Nabob's palace; nor in all that time did a single accident happen from such a mixture of society to disturb its peace, or to create misunderstanding between either the principals or parties of either, but they continued united with the same harmony that exists between the members of a private family: nor, whether in public or in private, though occasions of great delicacy often occurred, did a word ever pass in conversation between the Nabob and myself inconsistent with the strictest amity and mutual good humour. I hope this will not have the air of self-commendation.—My behaviour was regulated by a preconcerted policy, the Nabob's by a natural benevolence and pliancy of temper, joined to a persuasion that I merited more than an ordinary return of kindness from him, which left my part very easy, and will, I trust, still continue to operate for the common benefit of his interest, and yours, whatever may be my lot; for I have promised that I will not abandon him to the chance of another mode of relation, and most confidently given him assurances of your ratification and confirmation of that which I have established between his government and the Company.

I hope I shall be pardoned for repeating a remark, which I have already made in my letter to the Council (for it ought to be known and remembered) that I have provided for the complete discharge, in one year, of a debt contracted by the accumulation of many, and from a country whose resources have been wasted and dissipated by three successive years of drought, and one of anarchy.

The recovery of so large a part of your property will also afford a seasonable and substantial relief to the necessities of your government, and enable it, for such is my confidential hope, to begin upon the reduction of your debt at interest before the conclusion of this year, I mean the year of our own computation.

Whatever may be the event of this transaction, I cannot conclude the report of it without testifying my acknowledgment of the very useful assistance which I have received from the official skill and abilities of Mr. David Anderson. His reputation, which has been established on the merits of much more important services, will receive little addition from this tribute paid to it: yet the circumstances under which they were yielded on this occasion would not allow me to suppress it, as he had formed the resolution of resigning the service for the recovery of a very declining health, and had actually bespoke his passage in one of your homeward-bound ships, when his friendship and public zeal induced him to remain, at my solicitation, and to accompany me on this deputation. As I have occasionally mentioned the number of gentlemen which composed my family, I have a pride and pleasure in adding, that they all contributed, by the correctness of their manners, and conciliating behaviour, to maintain that familiar and cordial intercourse which I have already described to have subsisted between the Nabob and myself, and to leave a lasting and favourable impression of the British character with his subjects.

For the rest I beg leave to refer to my letter to the Board; and am, with the most respectful and dutiful attachment,

Honourable Sirs,

Your most obedient,

and most humble Servant,

WARREN HASTINGS.

READ

READ the following letter from Mr. Bristow :

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to acquaint you, that I this day received my audience of leave from his Highness the Nabob Vizier.

To anticipate calamity is an invidious and irksome task ; yet before I retire from the court of Owde I am strongly called upon by duty, and perhaps not ill qualified by experience, to suggest to the Honourable Board the probable consequences of my removal ; it is the last important obligation of the trust reposed in me, and I shall acquit myself of it with fidelity.

Much as I lament the unprosperous issue of an enterprize, which in its success would have been so honourable to me, my sensibility of it is unmixed with any painful consciousness. I have done my duty ; and your applause, gentlemen, as it is the best testimony, is also the best reward of my laborious endeavours in the public service.

Appointed to the arduous work of reformation, I found in Hyder Beg Cawn an antagonist of irresistible strength, over whom it was impossible I should singly prevail ; who in the extensive influence derived from his wealth, in the universal terror inspired by his authority, in the slavish subserviency and more than puerile weakness of the Prince his master, possessed a power of resistance which I long since foresaw, and long since foretold, would render equally vain the continued exercise of all my firmness, and every exertion of my understanding.

To restore the Sovereign to his dignity, to curb the ambition of his minister, to correct the disorders and abuses of his government, were the salutary and important objects of my designation at the court of Owde. Their accomplishment would have established the English influence over these once rich and flourishing provinces on a basis of more stability than any we had yet owned, and an interest in the hearts of the people, acquired and confirmed through the blessings they derived from us.

The triumphant opposition of Hyder Beg Cawn has defeated a purpose so full of wisdom and humanity, but the attempt, I am well assured, has left an indelible impression of fear and hatred upon his mind. Delivered at last from the hateful presence of your representative, and invested with the virtual sovereignty of the Vizier's dominions, all the activity, all the malevolence of his heart and understanding, will be called forth and exerted, to confirm his independance, and to gratify his revenge.

In the uniform experience of years, in the consistent iniquity and mismanagement of the minister, we find an elaborate instruction directing us with unerring certainty to the future fate of Owde, and our friends.

It is most foreign from my intention to arraign the wisdom, or to dispute the decrees of government ; but I obey the dictates of truth and duty in declaring, that I cannot imagine a conjuncture of more imminent and apparent danger to the interest of my employers, or to the honour of my country ; the first I consider as inseparably connected with the prosperity of Owde ; the last will receive a mortal wound, should those be abandoned by us, who in their services and attachment have a sacred claim to our protection. From the exercise of despotic authority by such a character as the minister, what indeed is to be hoped but the most heinous abuse of it ? From a reliance on the clemency of Hyder Beg Cawn, what milder doom, than death or confiscation ? Suffer me, gentlemen, in the affirmance of the melancholy propriety of these reflections, to refer to your own opinions, to your own expressive language. I transcribe them from the instructions I received through the Honourable the Governor General, shortly after my appointment ; delineating the former conduct of the minister with a truth and decision that will not be disputed, they furnish the most undeniable evidence of the peril of confiding in him, and render an appeal equally superfluous and impertinent : I shall therefore pass in silence over a thousand superadded examples, all strongly characteristic of the principles and policy of Hyder Beg Cawn, which have occurred during the interval that has since elapsed, and which, like those I am now about to lay before you, constitute a perpetual record of his contempt for your authority, of his insolence, ambition, and rapacity.

“ Immediately on your arrival, found the disposition of Hyder Beg Cawn ; his conduct has for some time past been highly reproachable. Till within these three months, when Mr. Johnson assumed a large portion of his authority, he possessed, without countroul, both the unparticipated

and entire administration, with all the powers annexed to that government; the Nabob himself being, as he ever must be in the hands of some person, a mere cypher in his, and the sanction by which he exercised his authority; yet he has dared both to use the Nabob's name, and even his seal, affixed to letters, either dictated to the Nabob, or written from him without his knowledge, containing very improper demands on our government, and such as evidently tended to promote Hyder Beg's influence and interest, and even to make him assume a very unbecoming tone of refusal, reproach, and resentment, in opposition to measures recommended by me, and even to acts done by my authority, in literal conformity to the Nabob's own and earnest solicitations; such as the resumption of the Jaghires, and the seizure of his father's treasures, which had been so long suffered to remain in the hands of the Begum his mother, and the other conditions of the engagement exacted from me at Chunar. On every occasion of this kind the late Resident has been the faithful echo and support of the minister's pretensions. I must therefore have recourse to you for the introduction of a new system in that government."—Again, "It may be advisable to try him (the minister) by the mode of conciliation in your first conversation with him; at the same time that it will be necessary to declare to him, in the plainest terms, the footing and conditions on which he shall be permitted to retain his place, with the alternative of dismissal, and a scrutiny into his past conduct, if he refuses it. In the first place, I will not receive from the Nabob, as his, letters dictated by the spirit of opposition, but shall consider every such attempt as the minister's, and as an insult on our government. In the second place, I shall expect that nothing is done in his official character, but with your knowledge and participation."—Again, speaking of Almas Ally Cawn, "It is very extraordinary that his defection, his retreat to the frontier, the subsequent negotiations which passed between him and the Nabob, the engagements concluded between them, which resemble more a treaty between equal states, than a transaction between a Sovereign and his vassal, have all passed without the least communication or report of them made to me by the Resident, or his assistant, or the minister; and in a letter which I have lately received from the Nabob, the minister has had the presumption to make the Nabob declare the whole to be false, and without foundation; and to affirm that every part of his dominions enjoys the most perfect peace and tranquillity. Upon this subject the behaviour of the minister is so reprehensible, that I think it incumbent upon me to let him know my sentiments of it. It will at least shew him how thin the veil is by which he covers his own acts; and that such artifices will only tend to make them the more criminal, from the falsehood and duplicity with which they are associated. As for Almas Ally Cawn himself, the policy which has been observed towards him has been scandalously derogatory from the Nabob's dignity and interests, and hurtful to the representation of our government, so far as it is connected, or the world will think it connected, with it.—Lastly, "The Nabob has repeatedly and bitterly complained of the indignity which he suffers in his authority, by the usurpation of the Company's Resident; and as repeatedly demanded, that whenever the Company's balance shall be completely discharged he may be freed from this vexation; that he may be permitted to pay the subsidy in ready money; and that the assignments which have been granted to satisfy that demand may be restored to him. I confess that I did myself give encouragement to this proposition, knowing at the same time the quarter from whence it came, I mean from Hyder Beg Cawn; and, willing to exonerate this government from the trouble and responsibility, and the Company from the disgrace of whatever might attend the administration of the Nabob's government: I thought too that it presented a sure prospect of the regular payment of the current demands, by the penalty which would attend the failure, in the resumption of the former system of assignments, and in the personal claims which it would bring on the minister. But his misconduct has since manifested itself in so many particular instances, besides the universal disorder of the country, and this is so alarming in its effects to our own government, that I shall hesitate, until I have the surest and most satisfactory grounds to recommend an acquiescence in such a measure. At present, the plea on which it is grounded is probably yet at some distance; for whilst I am writing these instructions, fresh circumstances occur to my knowledge, which make me much suspect the real payment of the sums brought to the Nabob's credit for the last year's balance. It may not, however, be amiss to talk with the minister on this subject, to let him know that it is well understood to be a demand for substituting his authority in the place of the Company's, and to invest him with the sovereignty of the Nabob's dominions; to ask him, whether he shall in such case expect the Company's protection? and if he does, by what claim of right? and whether, in the event of his involving our government in a new scene of hostilities by those which his mal-administration may produce, whether internally or by invasion in that country, he shall think himself in justice exempt from the personal vengeance which we may be disposed to exact from him? At all events, the proposition must be discouraged till a safer season for its acceptance; but the absolute rejection of it eluded with the Nabob, if he shall himself renew it."

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW.

Lucknow,  
8th Feby. 1784.

*To the Honourable Court of Directors of the Honourable United East India Company.*

Honourable Sirs,

Lucknow, 30th April 1784.

I HAVE judged it incumbent on me to make trial of every practicable chance of conveying to you the earliest intelligence of my arrival at the place from which this letter is dated, and of the first effects produced by the accommodation which took place by the resolution of the Governor General and Council, passed on the 31st of December last, and already notified to you by the successive dispatches of your ships. I shall begin the thread of my report from that date. I soon after found that the state of this country was so disordered in its revenue and administration, and the credit and influence of the Nabob himself so much shaken by the effects of the late usurpation of his authority, and the contest which attended it, as to require the accession of an extraneous aid to restore the powers and constitution of his government; and I was strongly and repeatedly urged to repair hither in person for that purpose.

These instances, though declared to be conformable to the wishes of the Nabob Vizier, his family and ministers, having been privately conveyed to me, I represented them as such to the Board on the 20th of January, and offered my services to go to Lucknow whenever the Nabob Vizier should require it, which I knew, from undoubted authority, he would, with his answer to the notification formally made to him of the resolution of the 31st of December.

My reasons for thus anticipating the occasion were many.—The distracted state of affairs, which every suspension of a day would aggravate; the season of the collections requiring the application of early exertions for their security; and my own infirm state of health, which was not equal to sustain so long a journey, if protracted to the commencement of the hot winds.

My offer was accepted, by a conditional declaration on the part of Mr. Wheeler, and I made instant preparations for the journey.

On the 14th of February the Nabob's invitation arrived. I repeated my proposal; the same authority decided its acceptance; and on the 17th I took my leave of the Board, and departed from Calcutta with a severe indisposition, which had seized me some time preceding, then hanging on me. Happily the change of air effected my speedy cure; and on the 27th ultimo I arrived at this place, in a state of health so confirmed, as to promise an unremitted attention to the very important objects of my commission.

On my way, I had the alarming perspective of a soil so completely exhausted of its natural moisture by the failure of one entire season of the periodical rains, that except the fields of grain that had been kept in vegetation by the uncommon labour of the husbandmen, and were still clothed with a luxuriant produce, or that retained the stubble of the recent harvest, the plains exhibited an appearance of barrenness so dreary, that even the roots of its former herbage no longer existed, and the deep ravines and beds of rivers, which I passed, threw up clouds of dust from their channels. These are not circumstances of trivial observation, nor are they confined to the lands of these provinces. Every region of Hindostan has felt the same angry visitation, and another year of equal drought (which is not to be expected in the course of natural events) would put it out of the reach of human wisdom to prevent or retrieve the dreadful calamity which must attend it.

Yet such is my reliance on the gratitude and unbounded confidence of the Nabob and his ministers, that I dare promise, even at this immature period, under every circumstance but the dreadful one which I have above supposed, and which I have stated as improbable, a successful progress and termination of the measures which I have begun, equal to any expectations which may have begun, equal to any expectations which may have been formed of it, however sanguine, if I am not counteracted, and my operations impeded, by orders which I may not resist, and am allowed to remain to the time destined for their perfection—nor shall it be a common obstruction which shall restrain me; for I possess such inherent advantages as, I trust, will prove superior to every species of opposition, but the last extremity of it. Indeed, if such springs as give the common movements to popular opinion could influence my proceedings, I have already experienced such in two instances, one of which I believe to have had the special service in which I am engaged for its object, and the other the general ruin of my authority.

I allude, first, to a report fabricated at Fort St. George, of the arrival of a ship of war at Bombay, with the authentic intelligence of my dismissal with disgrace from my office, which I received

ceived at the instant that I was setting my foot on the shore at Nuddeah, for the commencement of my journey; and secondly, to a paper transmitted to me by a respected authority from Calcutta, containing strictures on my former deputation, said to be a part of a report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, which unhappily apply to every purpose of this, and which declare (with horror I repeat it) a right invested in the Commander in Chief of the army to oppose the power delegated by the Government itself to its first executive member, and to assert that right by an appeal to the army for its ultimate decision upon it. The words of the Report, if it be such, to which I allude, are these:

“ By these instructions it appears, that the Governor General was positively restrained from the exercise of any military power whatsoever beyond the garrison and fortrefs of Fort William; so that the delegation and exercise of all military power and authority, beyond the limits so described, was a direct and positive disobedience of the orders of the Court of Directors.

“ Disobedience of orders on a point so delicate and important as that of wresting the military command from the official military officer, who was invested with that authority by the orders of the Directors, might have been productive of consequences extremely prejudicial to the service: if the Commander in Chief had asserted the right invested in himself, a contention for executive power might have been the consequence; and the army, which in India is so peculiarly constituted as to require not only exact discipline, but the most perfect subordination, in order to ensure obedience, must have ultimately decided where that obedience was due.”

I dare not examine a doctrine affirmed to be of so sacred an authority; yet I may humbly suggest that it never was, nor could have been intended to be applied to the actual Commander in Chief, whose command was originally constituted by the Governor General and Council themselves, and therefore could not be rendered superior to, and independent of, the powers vested in the Governor General and Council by an act of Parliament passed before its existence, nor included in any instructions of the Court of Directors, also framed at a more ancient period, if even at a later; and a sense of national duty superior to every consideration of personal safety, or the reverence which is due to high office, impels me to denounce, and to date the fall of the British empire in India from the instant that it shall be decided declared or understood that any Commander in Chief of the army, be his title or rank what it will, is, or may be, by any constructive power, independent of the Government under which the wisdom of Parliament hath hitherto placed the army serving in these provinces, and every member of it, in an implicit and absolute subjection to its authority.

God forbid that any future Pizarros and Almagros should disgrace the annals of your dominion, or mark the traces of its decline with the blood of your servants and soldiers—but the contest will probably be of short duration; and happy will it be for the interests of humanity, if such shall be the issue, though dreadful to our own, whatever period of time may close it!

Let me add, nor let my words be uttered in vain, that whenever the fatal blow shall be struck, or from whatever hand it shall proceed, its effect will not be a gradual decay, but an instantaneous ruin; for your existence hangs on the thread of opinion, which the touch of chance may break; and even that source, which ought to flow with the principles of its duration, will, if productive of the same deleterious streams which have been lately seen to issue from it, prove the cause of its dissolution.

I am not myself apprehensive of any evil consequence from the partial and limited command which I possess over your army, in its tendency to provoke a competition; for in the first place, I will never put it to the issue of a trial; and in the second, were the Board to permit the Commander in Chief to come into this quarter, which is not likely, I confidently hope that before he could arrive, this province will have been so regulated as not to require any foreign aid for its internal protection, nor of course any exercise of the powers which I possess, and which he might deem himself warranted to resist.

I proceed to report the effects which have been produced to this time from the late accommodation, and the objects to which I look for the final issue of it.

Before my departure from Calcutta, I applied through a private channel to the acting minister to advance an immediate supply of money to your Paymaster General at Lucknow for the subsistence of the troops stationed in these provinces, who were then many months in arrears, and suffered much additional distress from the scarcity and dearth of grain. He instantly raised the sum of ten lacks of rupees, which proved a critical and effectual relief. Since my arrival he has made

made other payments to a considerable amount. These are particularized in the enclosed account\*, No. 1, in which I have included, for your early information, all the payments made in liquidation of the Honourable Company's debt in the course of the present Fuffullee year, to which all accounts of the revenue are by old custom adjusted, and commences on the 11th of September, to the present time.

To this I have joined another account, No. 2, stating the probable claims of the Company upon the Nabob Vizier, from the beginning of the present to the end of the next Fuffullee year, or to the 10th September 1785.

On both these accounts I shall offer a few necessary remarks.—First on No. 1. The first sum of 16 lacks of rupees, stated as the account of Mr. Bristow's receipts, is taken from his own account in the possession of Mr. Wombwell, the Accomptant for this station, but differs materially from that which has been drawn by the Nabob's officers; and I have referred it to the Board for adjustment with Mr. Bristow, who alone can explain the difference.

The second article is the regular produce of the current revenue.—I was early careful to guard the minister against the use of violent measures, to anticipate the period of collection for the purpose of giving an ostensible credit to the present system, by swelling the amounts of the payments made in consequence of it; although the exigencies of your state induced me to press him to contribute what he could for your relief, without adding to the distresses of his own, for the country will not bear it.

The third article was obtained by my own suggestion from Almas Ally Cawn, who complied cheerfully and without hesitation, considering it as an evidence seasonably offered for the general refutation of the charges of perfidy and disloyalty, which have been so laboriously urged against him, and carried at one time to an excess which had nearly driven him to abandon the country for the preservation of his life and honour, and thus to give a colour to the charges themselves.

It will scarce merit your attention to be informed that I have invested a part of this supply in bills of exchange, payable to the Governor General and Council in Calcutta, to the amount of 5 lacks of Calcutta ficcas, but as it is connected with an arrangement which may prove of future advantage to your interests in the reduction of the hoondyan or exchange, from 16 per cent. to 5½, at which it is my determination to fix it.

I have recommended to the Board to appropriate the whole of this article as a fund for the payment of the interest of your bonds, which had suffered something in their credit and current value from the suspension of the payment of interest, some months before I left Calcutta.

The last article is the balance of the sum due from Fyzoola Cawn, by a treaty made between him and the Nabob Vizier, through the agency of Major Palmer, on the 15th February 1783. Two lacks of this amount are now in regular course of payment, the remaining three are not due by stipulation till the next season, called Kherief, which is a period included between the middle of September and the middle of February. Some days after my arrival, I intimated to his vakeel my wish to have both payments immediately concluded; and his master gave immediate orders for it.

To this instance of respect to your Government he has added another, in the deputation of his son to Lucknow, to confirm the assurance of his attachment to the Company and British nation.

What further sums may be realized in the course of this year, of which the productive part is already past, I cannot say; but it is my hope that a considerable part of the Nabob's debt will be liquidated, and the discharge of the remaining ensured by the engagements of creditable bankers, so that it may be wholly cleared within the course of the ensuing year.

The account, No. 2, is an estimate formed on the actual expence, but will be considerably reduced if my future prospects and objects shall be answerable to my present expectations: To them I proceed.

\* The accounts alluded to in this and the next paragraph were, in the hurry of the Governor's departure from Lucknow, mislaid, and no copies of them are to be procured. It is hoped, however, that this accident will be excused, as the statements here alluded to have been comprehended in accounts of later date.

1st. My first wish is to realize the amount of your demand on the Nabob of Owde, to the end of the next Fushlee year, and to obtain ample securities for it before I depart from hence.

2d. My next care will be to induce the Nabob's ministers to appoint bodies of regular troops, for the support of his collections, and the internal defence of his country. This will preclude the necessity of calling for the aid of our troops, and I hope may prove the means of releasing him from the extraordinary and undefined subsidy, which he now pays for the great detachment employed under the command of Colonel Sir John Cumming, in Rohilcund, and the regiments which have been occasionally demanded and remain scattered over other parts of his dominions, and of confining our defence, and the Nabob Vizier's payments, to the brigade stationed at Cawnpore, and to the subsidy fixed by the treaty for its expence.

3dly. My last and ultimate hope is, that when these objects are attained, your wisdom will put a final period to the ruinous and disreputable system of interference, whether avowed or secret, in the affairs of the Nabob of Oude, and withdraw for ever the influence by which it was maintained.

This country has no inlets of trade by which it can supply the issues which are made from it; for excepting the factory at Tonda, which subsists by a contract making part of your investment, and the produce of opium and saltpetre, which is not considerable, I do not know any other article of commerce from which it could derive any returns; therefore every rupee which is drawn from its circulation into your treasury will accelerate the period at which its ability must cease to pay even the stipulated subsidy. By the continuance of this fund, you maintain an accession of more than one half to the military establishment required for the defence of your dominions, without any charge on your own income, and you oppose a wide and powerful frontier to your eventual enemies.

That force will continue to be an effectual safeguard to the country, which will suffer nothing by its maintenance, because the specie thus applied will of course flow back into its circulation; and it is a tribute which it ought gladly to pay, for its whole wealth would not in any other way yield an adequate mode of protection.

Few are the advocates of the national interests, and their voice will be faintly heard amid the numerous and loud exclamations of private rapacity; but I humbly assume to rank myself with the former, and to assure you that if you seek for a permanent and profitable system of connection with this country, you must confine your claims upon it to the line which I have recommended; if you transgress it, you may extend the distribution of patronage, and add, by the fortune of individuals, to the nominal riches of Great Britain; but your own interest will suffer by it, and the ruin of a great and once-flourishing nation will be recorded as the work of your administration, with an everlasting reproach on the British name.

To this reasoning I shall join the obligations of justice and good faith, which cut off every pretext for your exercising any power or authority in this country, while the Sovereign of it fulfils the engagements which have been contracted with you.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Honourable Sirs,

Your's, &c.

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

Conf.

Conf. 14 Dec. 1784.

Governor General.

December 4th 1784.

THE other members of the Board cannot have such grounds of knowledge as I derive from long intercourse, and almost local inspection in the state of Hindostan, and the strength and probable views of its different rulers; but I have no right to complain if they exercise that which they undoubtedly possess, of judging for themselves. Yet let me observe, that every information from every officer of the army, who either is or may hope to be eventually employed on that service, which I have declared to be an unnecessary incumbrance on the country of which it is professedly the defence, and as unnecessary an expence to the Company, ought to be wholly rejected, unless supported by undeniable evidence; neither can I admit in this case the advice of the Commander in chief—he is most certainly the competent judge of the sufficiency of any given force for any actual service to be performed, or for repelling any expected invasion, provided the strength of the enemy be previously ascertained; but of the necessity or expediency of employing any force in the cases supposed, or of the existence of such cases, the Board itself is at least, equally competent to judge, and alone to determine. I for my own part profess to require no such reference; but if the Board is of opinion that it be made, I do not object, only declaring that my opinion cannot be bound by the result.

In the mean time, as I shall be ready at all times to accommodate my opinion to those of the Board, which may be decidedly against them in cases which will admit of delay, modification, or alternative, with little regard to the injury which my own influence may sustain by the public disavowal or repeal of acts done under my authority, merely as it may affect my own feelings; I am willing on this occasion to suspend the effects of my order, by writing to Major Palmer, to suppress it, or if he shall have already transmitted it, by writing in a like manner to Colonel Cumming, to suspend the execution of it; and will agree to leave the final confirmation or repeal of it to the future judgment of the Board.

The Board will find my grounds for the conviction of the little cause there is to apprehend any treachery from Madajee Sindia fully detailed in my report, now prepared for their inspection of my proceedings with relation to the Prince Mirza Jehander Shah. To these I will add another, which though of no recent impression, escaped my attention at the instant: a solemn peace has been concluded between the Maratta State and the Company, cemented by a separate treaty with Mahdajee Sindia. If he violates these combined obligations, he will not only forfeit the credit of his own faith, but commit an act of the most criminal offence against the general state of which he is a member; unless it be supposed that he acts on a plan concerted with the other members of it, or has been so instructed by them, which is against probability, since it is neither likely that such a design, with so many privy to it, could be secret, nor that the chiefs of so many loose dependencies of a sovereign in his minority, should so easily reconcile their discordant interests as to agree in such a confederacy, and so heartily unite in it as to conceal it from public knowledge. In effect, it is generally understood to be a fact well ascertained, that great misunderstandings have subsisted between them, and that all are jealous of Sindia, both on account of his power and connections.

He is the ruling power in the countries which border on the dominions of the Nabob Vizier or on that quarter of our own. In effect there is no other power. He has committed no act which can be construed as hostile to our Government, or leading to hostility, or indicating the intention of it; and his presence so near to the borders of the dominion of the Nabob Vizier is so far from being a just cause of suspicion, that it is the effect of my own solicitation to him, and is so far the effect of an act of this government. There is, therefore, no cause for keeping up two armies, in a season of established peace, and no enemy near, to defend the dominions of the Nabob Vizier, who declares the one alone to be sufficient, and that he cannot maintain more; nor has this Government any right to force the defence, with its maintenance, upon him.

I forbear to state this argument in its extent, at which it would not be easy to reply to it; and I fear to aggravate, where I profess a desire to conciliate.

If the other members of the Board see, or think they see, grounds for alarm, which I cannot see, and shall still resolve to retain the detachment in its present state, they have the power of deciding, and I must submit; but hope that they will not insist on loading the Nabob Vizier with the charge, until the Court of Directors shall have been apprized of all the circumstances of the measure, and passed their decision upon it.

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I feel the sense of an obligation imposed on me, by the supposition which I have made, to state a mode of rendering the detachment of use in its prescribed station, and affording the appearance of a cause for its retention. I most reluctantly anticipate the occasion, to which I can never on any account give my consent, that the Court of Directors may receive the earliest notice both of the resolution of the Board on the original question, and of the purpose to which it is the intention of the Board to apply it; this will lead to a discussion for which I am unprepared, and had reserved for a period of leisure, for the deliberate and wary examination of the subject, and for the disclosure of such events as might demand an immediate decision upon it.

I must repeat that the instant dispatch of the Surprise, and the expectation of her speedy arrival in England, probably within the course of four months, induce me to make this premature exposition of a new political scene which will merit the early attention of the Court of Directors, with every intermediate circumstance relating to it, which can eventually depend upon the resolutions of the Board, that their orders thereon may be received at the commencement of the next fair season, or at least that such an option be afforded them to convey them within that period.

I have already said that there is now no power, which can be properly so called, in that part of Hindostan which borders on the dominions of the Company and their ally the Nabob Vizier; but this affirmation, though strictly true with relation to the question of present danger, must be taken solely in that restrictive application of it. A new source of serious contemplation has arisen from a nearer quarter, namely, that of the Seiks, a people who, from a mean set of religious schismatics, have rapidly grown into the members of a dominion, extending from the most western branch of the Attock to the walls of Delhy: its present state is too contemptible to be an object of apprehension to any force that could be opposed to it but the King's, who derives as much of his present weakness from their encroachments, as from the usurpations of his own servants, which have excited them: they are, by their bodily frame and habits of life, eminently suited to the military profession, but this propensity is qualified by a spirit of independence, which is a great check to its exertion: every village has its separate and distinct ruler, acknowledging no controul, but that of the people of his own immediate community, who in their turn yield him little more than nominal submission. I remember when my enquiries led me to the knowledge of five independent sovereigns residing in the same city of Lahore; though exposed from this cause to a continual state of internal warfare, they are all prompt at the call of common danger, at which they will, without difficulty, abandon their mutual contests, to join in repelling it; returning, when the danger is past, with the same facility to their former contests. A constitution so framed may subsist unchanged for a length of time, while it has no powerful neighbours to invade it, and while it remains confined within the limits of its native territory; but when it aims at permanent conquests, and carries the principles of its own construction into new establishments, it becomes liable to almost certain variation, from whatever rules they may adopt for the distribution of territory, or appropriation of revenue; because both must introduce a new species of property, and add to the individual power which becomes possessed of it. In such a change of polity, should it so happen that one man of superior capacity and enterprize, aided by the spirit of religious enthusiasm, of which there are many examples in the modern history of India, and two even in the infancy of the nation which I am describing, should acquire but a few degrees of power beyond his nearest competitors, it will be easy to trace in the primitive defects of such a government, the gradual and easy means by which the whole might be enveloped within his own supremacy; such will probably be the effect of the extinction of the present empire, which is rapidly approaching to it, and may give birth to a new dominion ascending from its ashes.

For some years past the Seiks, quitting their predatory incursions, have fixed themselves in the lands which submitted to them, appointing collectors of their revenues, and officers for their government. No opposition was made to them; the only instance in which it was attempted, was in the year 1779, when the minister Miyed u Dowlah marched from Delhy with an army of 30,000 men to attack them, and without the sight of an enemy, purchased an ignominious retreat. They obtained quiet possession of the Purgannah of Sheaumler, one of the King's personal domains, lying within 30 coss of Delhy, while I was at Lucknow, and carried their depredations to the very suburbs of Delhy, where two of their officers actually reside in a quarter called the Subsee Mimdee, which is chiefly occupied by shroffs and shopkeepers, for the double purpose of levying their Rauky (which is the name given to that species of contribution) and of protecting the inhabitants from the marauders of their own nation.

We are too apt to despise the danger which we have not experienced, and to conclude that what has not happened in the ordinary course of events, never will happen; on such a presumption, my conclusions may expose me to the ridicule of those who may deem them the mere effusion of a wild imagination. I am willing to submit to this consequence, if the event which

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I have foreboded shall be prevented by seasonable means of opposition; but I trust to time, and that not distant, for verifying my prediction, if this people is permitted to grow into maturity without interruption.

I now proceed to shew the present means by which this interruption may be effected, and another point of some consequence attained with it.

I have mentioned in my report of the 1st instant, that it was one part of the Prince's plan to offer his services to the King, to be employed against the Seiks. The battalions which the Nabob Vizier has allowed for his escort, cannot attend him beyond the Nabob's own frontier. If he carries them further, he must provide their pay and subsistence, as their place must of course in that case be supplied with other levies, for which there is no other provision than that which is allotted to his actual establishment. This condition is in effect an insuperable bar to their employment, nor would it be prudent to trust his fortune on the first trial of it to the rabble of his father's army, unpaid and accustomed to disregard command. If the station at Futteghur must be continued, the detachment cannot be better employed, either in whole or part, than on service with the Prince. It will more effectually keep the Seiks at a distance, by advancing with such an influence to attack them, than by waiting within its own sphere of defence to repel them. I must here inform the Board, that the Prince repeatedly and earnestly solicited me to endeavour to obtain their authority, for he knew the extent of my own, for such an employment of the detachment. I discouraged the expectation, but promised to communicate his requisition.

I will confess, that the apprehension of his return upon our protection; the desire of executing the arduous task which the Board were pleased to assign me; and yet a stronger impulse, arising from the hope of blasting the growth of a generation whose strength might become fatal to our own, strongly pleaded in my mind for supporting his wishes. But to these I opposed the more urgent consideration of the Company's distresses, and their solemn call upon us to relieve them; and I had resolved to report to the Board the Prince's request, but at the same time to state my objections to it, which, in my judgment, outweigh the advantages that might arise from a compliance with it.

I chuse in this place to observe, that the actual expence of the detachment is 1,88,705 current rupees per month, or 22,64,466 per annum, of which 81,030 current rupees per month, or 9,72,360 per annum, are the extra expences of the staff, field, batta, and contingencies, which belong to it as a detached corps, and which would cease with its reduction; besides that, it would facilitate the reduction of the strength of the army.

But if the expence is to be continued, it may be surely better continued for some useful purpose, than to keep up the parade of a great military corps, designed merely to lie inactive in its quarters.

On this ground therefore, and on the supposition premised, I revert to my original sentiments in favour of the Prince's plan; but as this will require some qualification in the execution of it, I will state my recommendation of it in the terms of a proposition, viz.—That if it shall be the resolution of the Board to continue the detachment now under the command of Colonel Sir John Cumming at Furruckabad, and if the Prince Merza Jehander Shah shall apply, with the authority of the King, and the concurrence of Madajee Sindia, for the assistance of an English military force to act in conjunction with him, to expel the Seiks from the territories of which they have lately possessed themselves in the neighbourhood of Delhy, it may be granted, and such a portion of the said detachment allotted to that service, as shall be hereafter judged adequate to it.

(Signed)

WARREN HASTINGS.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,  
Secy.

*Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 4th January 1785.*

THE Secretary, having attended the Board at their meeting in the public department, on the 29th ultimo, the following letters were read from the Commander in Chief and Major Lumsdaine; and the resolution was passed that is entered after them.

Gentlemen,

At the request of Major Lumsdaine, I do myself the honour to lay before you the accompanying letter, addressed to your Honourable Board, stating his pretensions to a specific allowance, which he says was granted to officers commanding detachments immediately employed on the Vizier's service, in lieu of all contingent charges.

What the amount of the allowance is to which he alludes, or to whom it has been granted, I am entirely a stranger, as Major Lumsdaine does not express either in his letter; and must therefore suggest to the Board the propriety of calling on Mr. Bristow, the late Resident at Oude, for an explanation of this matter.

I have only to observe to the Board, that Major Lumsdaine was detached with the regiment of sepoys, at the period he mentions, to suppress a rebellion raised by Bulbudder Sing, which he effectually accomplished, by the total defeat and capture of that refractory Rajah, and is the service I suppose he means to allude to having been brought to a successful termination.

I have the honour to be,

&c. &c. &c.

Fort William,

27th Decr 1784.

(Signed) G. STIBBERT.

Gentlemen,

When I commanded a detachment in the Vizier's country, in September 1782, I presented a bill to the Resident at the Vizier's court, for charges incurred by the detachment, which he readily admitted; but in the following month he informed me, that a fixed allowance was granted by the Vizier to commanding officers employed on service in his country, in lieu of all contingencies; and that he supposed this mode would be more agreeable to me.

The officer whom I relieved received, for all the time he was employed on the same service which I brought to a happy conclusion, the monthly fixed allowance to which I allude; and I am given to understand, that your Honourable Board have, within these few days, acquiesced in granting him the balance of these arrears: As I stand exactly in the same predicament, and have, I trust, the same claims, I hope to have the same allowances, an indulgence which I hope you will not think too great, when my long services are considered, and the essential benefits accruing to the Vizier, from my having brought the service to a fortunate issue.

I have the honour to be,

&c. &c. &c.

Fort William,

27th Decr 1784.

(Signed) J. LUMSDAINE, Major.

Sir,

On the 27th instant I did myself the honour of addressing the Honourable Board through the Commander in Chief: My letter, I am informed, will be laid before the Board in your department; on the perusal of it, should any vouchers be required, I beg you will please observe to the Board, that I was employed on the same service against the rebel Rajah, Bilbudder Sing, on which Major Gilpin received the allowance I now solicit, which I understand the Board have also allowed him, when at Fyzabad; and as I commanded a much larger detachment, at one time three

three battalions, and almost the whole time a complete regiment employed on actual service, I trust I shall receive the same indulgence. Should the Board require my bills, they shall be immediately sent to any office they are pleased to refer them.

I have the honour to be,  
&c. &c. &c.

Fort William,  
29th Decr 1784.

(Signed) J. LUMSDAINE, Major.

P. S. As I go in the Vanfittart to Europe, I hope the Board will honour me with their determination, as my stay in Bengal cannot exceed two days.

(Signed) J. LUMSDAINE.

Ordered, That copies of Major Lumsdaine's letters be transmitted to the committee of accounts, and that they be directed to pass his bills for the same monthly allowance, in lieu of all contingencies, that was charged by Major Gilpin, in consequence of an authority given to him by Mr. Middleton, and lately communicated to the committee, with the Board's sanction for its audit; Major Lumsdaine's bills, commencing at the period when he relieved Major Gilpin in the service on which he was employed against the rebel Rajah, Bulbudder Sing, and ceasing at the conclusion of it; but that the committee be careful not on any account to pass the same charges twice for the same months of the same years, in which the two officers were engaged in that duty.

The following letter having been received from Major Lumsdaine on the 31st ultimo, it was circulated, and the opinions delivered that are entered after it.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

As I am just embarking for Europe in the Vanfittart, Captain Agnew, and as the military Paymaster General refuses payment of my bills passed by your order, and audited by the committee of accounts, giving as a reason that the bills are charges on his Excellency the Vizier, which he cannot admit in his account with his Excellency without your order, I have therefore, under these circumstances, to request that you will please favour me with an order on the military Paymaster General, to give me a treasury transfer for the amount.

I have the honour to be,  
&c. &c. &c.

Fort William.  
31st Decr 1784.

(Signed) J. LUMSDAINE, Major.

Governor General.

I can give no opinion on the subject, not knowing to what it relates.

(Signed) W. H.

If the committee of accounts have audited the bills by order of government, they surely know where they are to be paid.

(Signed) J. M.

If Major Lumsdaine's bills stand upon the same ground as Major Gilpin's, think, in justice, they ought to be paid.

(Signed) J. S.

This

This subject being again considered, ordered, That the Paymaster General do pay Major Lumsdaine's bills that have been passed by the committee of accounts; and that Mr. Wombwell be applied to, and that he advise the Board, if the Vizier has any objection to the amount of these bills, and of Major Gilpin's, being charged to his account, informing his Excellency, at the same time, of the authorities on which they have been audited.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 13th January, 1784.*

The following letter from Captain William Alston to the Honourable the Governor General, having been circulated on the 12th instant, and the opinions delivered that are entered after it, letters were immediately written to the Commander in Chief and Major Lumsdaine, in conformity to the Board's directions.

Honourable Sir,

Understanding the Honourable Board have been pleased to admit Major Lumsdaine's claim to the allowance of 3000 rupees per month during the time his regiment was on command in the service of the Vizier, from the month of September 1782 to the month of February 1784, being 17 months, and that he has left Calcutta in order to proceed to Europe, on-board the Vanfittart, I think it necessary to acquaint you, that I commanded the regiment and detachment for the months of July, August, and October, 1783, during which time, in his absence, I reduced the forts of Belkar and Singar, and, at the desire of the Resident, levelled them with the ground, without having hitherto received one rupee of the contingent charges thereby incurred.

My right to the said contingent allowance for the above months, I humbly presume, is therefore obvious; and, as government would not probably authorize the payment of it twice, I shall be deprived of my just right, unless you be pleased to take some immediate measure to compel Major Lumsdaine to account to me for my proportion of the said allowance, before the departure of the ship Vanfittart.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) WILL<sup>M</sup> ALSTON.

Calcutta,  
10th Janry. 1785.

The Governor General recommends the subject of the preceding letter to the immediate consideration of the Board—That it be referred to the Commander in Chief for the verification of the fact alledged in it; and further, that Major Lumsdaine be required, by a letter from the Secretary, to leave directions with his attornies for the payment of Captain Alston's portion of their common claim, if his right to it shall appear to be established by the answer of the Commander in Chief.

(Signed)

W. HASTINGS.

12th Janry. 1785.

Agreed. J. M'PHERSON,  
J. STABLES.

*EXTRACT of the Secret Letter from Bengal; dated 17th January 1785.*

Par. 13. We have the honour to submit to you, in this place, the copy of a minute that was delivered by your Governor General on the 4th of this month; and we shall annex to it the answer that was given to it by the other members of the Board on the 13th. The great importance of their subjects will, we trust, be admitted as our excuse for referring to them at large, and not abstracting their contents.

The Governor General: Recorded 4th January 1785.

The period is now arrived in which I must either verify the declaration which I have made and repeated to the Court of Directors, of my intention to relinquish the service, or suspend the execution

execution of it, if compelled to it on the ground of superior obligation. These I shall now state, and submit my destiny to the justice and generosity of my colleagues in the administration. In making this appeal, I should be sorry to have it ascribed to any distrust in the issue, having evinced the contrary by making the declaration to which I have above alluded, without any such reserve or qualification; but I do it in performance of a solemn engagement, and with a conviction that the security of a valuable portion of the Company's immediate and pecuniary interests indispenfably requires it.

The Board will permit me to remind them, that on the 31st December 1783 they passed an unanimous resolution, agreeing and declaring, that "the offer made by the Nabob Vizier and his minister, to give the security of bankers of known credit and responsibility for the payment of the balance due to the Company, and for the current demands of that year, should be accepted, with the condition annexed, of the recall of Mr. Bristow and Mr. Cowper, the Governor General consenting to be specially answerable for the propriety of the measure;" and that, in consequence of the Board's having agreed, that "the Governor General should proceed to Lucknow for the purpose of assisting the Nabob Vizier in the means of discharging his engagements to the Company, and the regulation of his government," they, on the 17th February last, resolved, that "the Governor General should be, and he was thereby invested with full power and authority to concert and adjust with the Nabob Vizier the means of discharging his engagements to the Company, of restoring and securing the peace, safety, and order of his government, and of promoting the improvement of his revenue, and to support the Nabob Vizier with the authority of his government, in as full and ample manner as the Board could empower him, by any act of Parliament of Great Britain, or by any of the orders of the Honourable Court of Directors; and to take all such measures as he should think necessary for the accomplishment of these ends."

I undertook the service at a time, and under circumstances, which, to a mind liable to despond, would have suggested insurmountable difficulties. These I have minutely stated in my correspondence with the Board; and my late report of the 20th of September states in what manner I have executed the trust which I had undertaken.

The engagements which I have obtained from the Nabob Vizier cease with the close of the next Fuffellee year, or in September next; but his means of fulfilling them depend upon the unchanged and unmolested subsistence of many internal arrangements, which are mutually connected in a series of five years from their foundation; and in the absolute forbearance of this government from all present interference in his authority, and especially in the controul and administration of his revenues.

When I was on the eve of parting from him, I deemed it consistent with the sincerity of my own character, and necessary to prevent the consequences of too abrupt an information, whenever he might receive it, of the apparent deprivation of my support, to acquaint him with the probable approach of my removal from the service; and at the same time I promised him, that I would on no account make it my own act, without previously obtaining from the Board their promise of an entire and punctual adherence to the engagements which I had made with him on my own part individually, and on behalf of the Board, in virtue of their existing engagements with me, which are contained in the resolution to which I have appealed in the introduction of this minute: The same assurance I gave also to his ministers. I soon after departed, leaving my Secretary, Major Palmer, as my personal representative and agent, with the Nabob Vizier, both for the encouragement of the Nabob and his ministers, and for the means of urging them to the faithful discharge of their stipulated payments; and Mr. Wombwell, the proper officer, in charge of the receipts.

In conformity to the above engagements, I now make it my earnest request to the Board, that they will be pleased to record their resolution to abide by the arrangements which I have made, and to notify the same, for the satisfaction and assurance of the Nabob Vizier and his ministers, by an official letter to the Nabob Vizier from my eventual successor, with a promise that no deviation shall be made from the said arrangements, nor any person deputed to reside at his court, but at his own spontaneous inclination, or any authority exercised within the limits of his dominions by the appointment or permission of the Board, except such as shall be required by the Nabob himself from the military officers stationed for his defence and the protection of his country, until the conclusion of the present Fuffellee year, or until the orders of the Court of Directors shall be received, in consequence of the references which have been made to them, if such orders shall either enjoin or authorize a different conduct.

I presume that this requisition is consonant with the strictness of legal propriety, as the first delegation of the trust made to me in December 1783 extends in its full force as a reciprocal obligation

gation to the period which I have prescribed; and as the act of a majority of the Board, which followed it, from its legal obligation on the whole, necessarily includes and involves every engagement contracted under it, and conformable to it, with the same force of an equal and permanent obligation.

Before I conclude, I desire to obviate every possible misconception of my object in the requisition which I have made. I do not desire the Board, nor the members of it, individually, to approve what I have done; I only desire them to ratify what I have done under a constitutional and legal authority, by their constitutional and legal acquiescence and confirmation of it; knowing that, without it, the Nabob Vizier and his ministers, who are ignorant of the powers of the Board, and of the principles which give stability to its decided acts, will conclude that all the engagements contracted with them by the only ostensible member of our government, with whom, by the forms of it, they are connected, will be dissolved on his removal from it. I make the proposal with an anxiety natural to the importance of its issue, in the hope that it will prove the last act in my public life, and the last test which I shall exact from the Board of that spirit of mutual conciliation which no difference of opinion has yet been able wholly to extinguish, and which it is my most earnest wish to preserve, whether we are to be still longer united in the same service, or whether we are to part in our public capacities for ever.

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Mr. Macpherson and Mr. Stables: Recorded 13th January 1785.

We have considered the very important and solemn proposition which the Governor General has made to the Board. The very earnest manner in which he has called upon us, as his colleagues in the administration, and the great anxiety which he has expressed for the issue of our determination, oblige us to confine our sentiments, on the present occasion, to a clear and explicit answer to the question which he has been pleased to propose.

The question itself, as a proposition for our adoption, is stated in full and clear terms; nor need we repeat the words. It is a proposition founded upon specific acts of this government, which have already taken place; and, as members of the government, we have already committed our sanction in its favour, by those legal obligations which bind every member of the administration to the acts of a decided majority, and that constitutional acquiescence in the arrangements concluded between the Governor General and the Nabob Vizier and his ministers, to which our ratification, is required on the liberal principle which the Governor General has specified.

We are sensible of the just and public grounds upon which it is proper and necessary that the Nabob Vizier should be assured that the arrangements concluded with him for the discharge of his debt to the Company, and the future regulation and increase of his revenues, should remain permanent and binding upon the Company's representatives, independent of the continuance in office of the Governor General for the time, who had the delegated powers of the government to conclude those arrangements. We are, therefore, willing and ready to adopt the mode which the Governor General has proposed for relieving the mind of the Vizier, as well as his ministers, from all apprehensions or uneasiness upon the subject.

We are confident, at the same time, that the Governor General will, of his own accord, use his utmost influence to convince the Vizier and his ministers of the necessity of a punctual performance of their engagements, so as to preclude this government from all interference in the controul and administration of his Excellency's revenues.

Having acceded, in so explicit a manner, to the Governor General's proposal; and having pledged our support of arrangements, for the successful issue of which to the public it is natural for the Governor General to carry an anxiety beyond the period he may wish to prescribe to his own administration in this country, we further beg leave to assure him, that whether we are to be longer united with him in the public service, or soon to separate, it is our earnest wish to preserve unextinguished, and improve that spirit of conciliation, which is equally dictated by our sense of public duty, and our personal respect for the Governor General.

(Signed) { JOHN MACPHERSON.  
                  { JOHN STABLES.

Par. 14. We enclose a number in this dispatch, a minute that has been delivered by the Governor General, in respect to the detachment of your troops under the command of Sir John Cumming.

15. The proposition stated in it was, that "If it should be the Board's resolution, on the arrival of the Fox, which it has been supposed may contain some orders respecting the force to be kept up in the provinces dependant on the Nabob of Oude, to retain the detachment now commanded by Colonel Sir John Cumming in its present station at Futtly Ghur, or in any other part of the Nabob's dominions, the payment of its expences should not be demanded from the Nabob Vizier during the course of this year, but the subject be generally referred to your Honourable Court, and a due time allowed for your answer and decision thereon to be received for the regulation of that claim."

Par. 16. Your Governor General acquainted us, that he was more anxious to receive the determination of the Board on this question, because he conceived it "to be immediately connected with the object of his minute of the 4th instant:" and he observed, "That if the charge of the detachment, which has been estimated at twenty-two lacks and an half, but which will more probably amount to twenty five lacks, should be exacted from the Nabob Vizier in the course of the present year, it would not only be a breach of the engagement made with him by the Governor General, but exceed by the amount, whatever it may be, his ability to pay it; and the demand would produce the effect of a total abolition of the engagement now subsisting with his Excellency."

Par. 17. The Governor General informed us, that the Nabob Vizier had provided five battalions of sepoy to replace Colonel Cumming's detachment; that these had been lately completed, and properly equipped for that service, under the direction of a very able officer, Capt. Frith, whom the Governor General had left with the Nabob for that purpose, and to attend on the Prince, with whom these troops are at present stationed as his guard; and that they were to escort the Prince as far as Futtly Ghur, their destined station, but no further, as the Nabob could not provide funds for raising an equivalent recruit to supply their place.

Par. 18. But the Governor General observed, that if it should be the decided opinion of the Board, that the Futtly Ghur detachment should be continued in its station for another year, it would afford a considerable saving to the Nabob Vizier to apprise him of it, that he might disband the corps which he had appointed for its relief; and that what was a saving to the Nabob would be eventually an aid to the Company.

Par. 19. We were all of opinion, that the sum agreed between the Governor General and the Nabob Vizier to be discharged within the present Fuffullee year, was all that could be exacted from his Excellency within that period. We have resolved, in conformity to the Governor General's opinion, that it shall be left to the determination of your Honourable Court, whether the Company, or the Vizier, shall be charged with the expence of the detachment now commanded by Sir John Cumming; and we accordingly request your orders on this subject; and it has been further agreed, that the Vizier should be informed that the expence of his new levies is an unnecessary expence; and that Sir John Cumming's detachment will, while it remains in his Excellency's dominions, render that corps needless,

Par. 20. Majors Martin, Gilpin, and John Lumisdaine, having solicited our sanction to a monthly allowance, which appeared to have been agreed to by the minister of the Nabob Vizier, in lieu of contingent charges while they were detached on his Excellency's service, we directed the Committee of Accounts to pass the bills of these officers, agreeably to the vouchers for them; and we have ordered your Accomptant at Lucknow to mention the circumstances to the Vizier, and to ascertain whether he has any objections to the amount of the bills being placed in his Excellency's debt, in his account with the Company.

EXTRACT

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations 20th Jan. 1785.*

THE following Letter was received by the Secretary from Major Lumsdaine, on the subject of the requisition made of him on the 12th of this month.

Sir,

I have this day received your letter of the 12th instant, and have addressed the Commander in Chief on the subject: I also wrote my attornies under this date, who will lay my letter before the Board and General Stibbert.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) J. LUMSDAINE.

Vanfittart,  
Sagor Island,  
13th Jan. 1785.

The following letter, and its enclosures, were received from the Commander in Chief, on the 15th instant.

Gentlemen,

I do myself the honour of returning Captain Alston's letter, transmitted to me by your Secretary, with a request that I would ascertain the fact therein alledged. In reply, I have to inform you, that upon an enquiry, I find that Major Lumsdaine quitted his regiment, then on command in the Vizier's provinces, on the 7th July, being ordered to Cawnpore, to give evidence at a General Court Martial, assembled for the trial of Captain Jaques; that he rejoined his regiment on the 22d September; that on the 26th October he again proceeded to Cawnpore, to prosecute the claim of his detachment to the reward offered by the Vizier for the capture of Bulbudder Sing, and returned to his regiment on the 2d of November.

Major Lumsdaine, on receiving a letter from your Secretary, on the subject of Captain Alston's claim, addressed to me from the Vanfittart a letter, which I beg leave to enclose for your information.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) G. STIBBERT.

Fort William,  
17th January, 1785.

Sir,

I have this day been honoured with a letter from Mr. Hay, Secretary to the Honourable Board, informing me that Captain Alston claimed part of my allowances for July, August, and October 1783; previous to which, I had received a letter from my attornies, the Messrs. Bayne, Alexanders, and Colvin, on that subject; my answer to them I desired might be laid before the Board, and they will also communicate it to you, which will plainly shew the justice of that gentleman's claims. So very absurd are his pretensions, that he claims my allowances for the month of October 1783. By your commands, I left the detachment on the 26th of October, and proceeded post to Cawnpore, to prosecute the claims of the detachment I commanded, in which Captain Alston was materially concerned, and in which I had no personal interest whatever, as I had given my share of the prize money for the capture of Bulbudder to the officers: I was put to a very considerable expence, as I returned post on the 2d November, and during the month of October was absent for *five days only*, during which the regiment lay quiet at or near to Allahabad, yet, for these five days, Captain Alston expects my allowances for one month, although I paid all the expences on the march to Allahabad, as stated in my letter of this day to my attornies, to which, to avoid prolixity, I beg leave to refer you; only observing, that Captain Alston had with him the only elephant allowed for the carriage of the camp equipage of the detachment. It must also be observed, that the allowance of 3,000 rupees per month, is expressly confined to the rank of *field officers*—is given them in consideration of their rank, and in lieu of all advantages for bazzars, &c. upon the grounds set forth in Mr. Middleton's letter to Major Gilpin, and was never extended to the rank of captains. The Honourable Board and you, I am confident, can never mean that I should be a sufferer by being ordered up to Cawnpore as an *evidence for the Crown*, in  
Captain

Captain Jaques's court martial; and Government, in their usual mode of justice, have by former orders plainly pointed out, that circumstances of this kind should never tend to the injury of individuals, in point of pay and allowances. Under these circumstances, I flatter myself you will see the futility of Captain Alston's claims, which have lain dormant until the hour of my sailing from this place, and never once mentioned, until many days after I had left Calcutta, to embark for Europe.

Vanfittart,  
near Sagor Island,  
13th Jan. 1785.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) J. LUMSDAINE.

The Secretary having received and circulated the following letter from Captain Alston, orders were given for furnishing Captain Alston with a copy of Major Lumsdaine's letter to the Commander in Chief, and he was furnished with it accordingly.

Sir,

Understanding Major Lumsdaine has addressed the Commander in Chief, in respect to my claim to a portion of the contingent allowance that has been lately advanced to him, for the time his regiment was detached on the Vizier's service, and that the Commander in Chief has transmitted the letter to the Honourable Board, I should hope the Honourable Board would not think me unreasonable in soliciting a copy of its contents, that I may submit my claim to their attention and justice, against any arguments Major Lumsdaine may have suggested to invalidate it. I beg the favour of you to submit my request to them accordingly.

Calcutta,  
17th January 1785.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) W. ALSTON.

Read the following letter, and its enclosures, from the Commander in Chief:

Gentlemen,

I do myself the honour of laying before you, at the request of Captain Alston, a letter from him, in reply to some remarks of Major Lumsdaine's, offered in objection to Captain Alston's claim for allowances during the period he commanded the 32d regiment on service in the Vizier's provinces, in the absence of Major Lumsdaine.

Fort William,  
19th January, 1785.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) G. STIBBERT.

Sir,

Having been furnished by the Secretary to the Secret Department with a copy of Major Lumsdaine's letter to you on the subject of my claim, I am under the necessity of troubling you with some remarks upon it.

He begins with stating, that he proceeded to Cawnpore, in obedience to your commands, to give evidence on the trial of Captain Jaques. I beg leave to observe, that is of no consideration to me, what the cause of his absence was—I remained the commanding officer of the detachment, liable to all the contingent charges that Major Lumsdaine could have incurred, had he been present; but the truth is, that he went to Cawnpore to prosecute Captain Jaques, in consequence of complaints preferred by himself against that officer.

Major Lumsdaine is correct in saying that I commanded for only a few days in October; but he should also have been candid enough to have stated that I commanded until the 25th of September, for which month I made no demand, as he signed the muster returns; and I only claimed the allowance for October, because I signed the muster rolls for that month; and I had given up the allowance to the Major for an equal number of days in the preceding month of September; he is also entirely silent in respect to the two months of July and August, during which period I commanded the detachment, and in his absence reduced and levelled the forts of Bilkar and Singar.

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Major

Major Lumsdaine asserts, that the allowance of 3,000 rupees per month, which was granted in lieu of contingent charges, was expressly confined to the rank of Field Officers. It appears, with all submission, to be a solecism of ideas, that the incidental expences of any service should depend solely upon the rank of the officer conducting it, and not upon the unavoidable circumstances which occasioned them.

Major Lumsdaine, in conclusion, confidently supposes that the Honourable Board can never mean that he should be a sufferer by being ordered to Cawnpore; and that Government, by former orders, plainly pointed out the contrary. It has been already noticed, that the trip to Cawnpore was originally occasioned by his altercation with Captain Jaques; and it might have been expected that Major Lumsdaine would have produced or quoted the order to which he alludes, in support of the assertion, that the allowance in question was confined to Field Officers: but, not to leave that point in any doubt, I deem it necessary to quote a regulation of Government, in direct opposition to the Major's assertion, viz.

"That the gratuity to be given to the Majors commanding regiments shall not be drawn by them, except when present, and returned as doing duty with their respective corps. When absent, the next senior officer shall be entitled to these allowances."

It appears by the above regulations, that even the established allowances of a field officer commanding a regiment, devolved, in his absence, to the next in command, whether occasioned by public duty, private business, or sickness. And if the Board judged it proper, that the established monthly allowance of the Majors commanding regiments should fall to the next in command, in the absence of the Major, without regard to the cause of it, it may be fairly presumed that Government could not intend to assign the allowances specifically granted for the purpose of defraying the contingent expences of any particular service to the Major, during his absence, whilst the service was performed, and the incidental expences of it actually incurred, by the officer next in command.

The Major says, that my claim was dormant till the eve of his departure: in answer to which, permit me to observe, that the Honourable Board only admitted the claim for the allowances so few days ago; and that the Major was so earnest to avoid any communication with me on the subject, as to take his departure for the ship eight days earlier than was necessary; and, in fact, he was so expeditious in leaving the settlement, that I did not hear of the Board's decision in favour of the claim, till two days after he was gone.

The Board being already informed by you, Sir, that I commanded the detachment for the months of July, August, and October, I have only further to request that you will do me the honour to lay this letter before them, and also the enclosed letter from the late Resident at Lucknow, expressive of the sense which the Vizier entertained of my services during the above period.

With my humble apologies for the trouble which I have been compelled to occasion you,

Calcutta,  
19th Jan. 1785.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) W. ALSTON.

Captain William Alston.

Sir,

I have received your letter of this date, and, upon a reference to my correspondence, observe, that Major Lumsdaine left the command in Sahlonie in the beginning of July 1783, and resumed it on the 25th September following—That he again left the command in October, and returned to it in the month of November 1783, during which periods of Major Lumsdaine's absence, you commanded the detachment. You never preferred any claim for the contingent allowance of 3,000 rupees per month, to which I conceive you well entitled by the nature of your command; nor did you, to my knowledge, receive this or any other allowance from the Vizier.

The detachment under your command acted in support of the Vizier's authority, and for the preservation of the peace of his dominions. In the month of August 1783 you reduced the forts of Singar and Bilkar, and afterwards levelled them, in which you acted under instructions given you by me, in behalf of the Vizier, who approved your zeal and good conduct on this, as well as on

on every occasion—that you rendered essential service to the officers of his government, in the discharge of their duty.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed)

J. BRISTOW.

Calcutta,  
18th Janry. 1785.

Ordered, that the subject of the foregoing papers do lie for consideration.

Read the following letter from the Military Paymaster General:

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

Having paid, by transfer, Major Gilpin and Major Lumdaine's bills, for an allowance granted to them by your Honourable Board, in lieu of contingent charges, whilst their regiments were on command in his Excellency the Nabob Vizier's dominions, amounting to current rupees 84,573. 2; and as I cannot close my cash account until I know under what head those charges are to be placed, I have to request your Honourable Board will decide upon this matter as soon as possible.

I have the honour, &c.

My Py Mr G's Office,  
19th January 1785.

(Signed)

C. ALEXANDER,

My Py Mr G's.

Ordered, That the Military Paymaster General be informed, in reply to the foregoing letter, that as soon as it shall be ascertained whether the amount of Major Gilpin's and Major Lumdaine's bills is to be carried or not to the Vizier's debit, he will be duly advised thereof.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 28th January, 1785.*

The Governor General sends in the following minute:

Governor General,

Monoku Dofs, the son of Gopaul Dofs, having waited upon me with a request, that he might be furnished with an order upon the Lucknow treasury, for the amount which may be due upon the bond granted by the late Resident, on the part of the Company, dated the 8th of June 1783, which, according to the tenor of that engagement, was to be repaid from whatever might remain after providing for the Company's necessary disbursements from the receipts of the assignments granted on the country in their favour, by his Highness the Nabob Vizier, but which the urgent occasions of this Government for remittances to Surat and Calcutta, have prevented the performance of this article of the Company's engagement with them—I am to request, that the Board will be pleased to direct the Accountant at Lucknow, in place of remitting in Jeyte the ten lacks which are then to be paid by the Nabob Vizier in bills on Surat and Calcutta, to pay the same to the agents of Gopaul Dofs, taking their receipts as an endorsement on the back of Mr. Bristow's bond; and that in the month of Bhaudun, in place of remitting the whole amount of the 15 lacks, which the Nabob Vizier is then to pay in bills on Surat and Calcutta, he do discharge the amount which may then be due of the principal and interest of that bond, the latter of which he will of course charge to the Nabob's account, it being allowed for in the last article of the estimate of the Company's demand against the Vizier, for the present Fuffulle year 1191.

(Signed)

W. HASTINGS.

The Board agree to the Governor General's request, and direct the Secretary to send the necessary orders to Mr. Wombwell in consequence.

*EXTRACT*

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 15th February 1785.*

Ordered, That the Accomptant General be directed to lay before the Board a statement of the Vizier's debt to the Honourable Company, when Mr. Hastings proceeded to Lucknow, in the last year; and an account of the debt as it now stands, or as it stood by the last advices from Mr. Wombwell.

Ordered, That the Secretary do prepare and lay before the Board a statement of the transaction with respect to the debt incurred at Lucknow to Gopaul Doss, shewing how the debt stood when Mr. Hastings went to the upper provinces, and how it stands at present.

The Board having understood, from different channels of private communication, that the Seiks had entered Rohilcund, and plundered the towns of Bisslee, Chundoe, and Oajanney; Colonel Sir John Cumming was written to by the Secretary, on the 6th instant, in consequence of the Board's commands, and informed, that the Board could pay no attention to such reports, as he had taken no notice of the subject either to the Board or to the Commander in chief; and no official advice had been received of the invasion of the Seiks, either from his Excellency the Vizier, or his minister.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 19th February, 1785.*

Read the following letters from the Commander in chief:

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council—St Department.

Gentlemen,

I do myself the honour of laying before you copy of a letter which I yesterday received from Colonel Ironside, wherein he advised me, that, in consequence of apprehensions entertained of the fidelity of Almas Ally Cawn, the Vizier had made a requisition to him for another regiment of sepoys, to reinforce the troops of Lucknow; and that, in order to assist the views of the Resident at the Vizier's court, he had directed the brigade under his command to be in readiness to move on the shortest notice.

I take the opportunity of informing the Board, that the 12th regiment of sepoys returned from the Carnatic, and a detachment of European recruits marched from Sulka, by the new road towards Cawnpoor, on the 2d instant, under the command of Major Dawes, in conformity to private instructions given to me by the Governor General and members of the Board.

I have the honour,

Fort William,  
6th Feby. 1785.

(Signed) G. STIBBERT.

Cawnpoor, January 25th 1785.

To Major General Stibbert, Commander in chief.

Sir,

Once again has the Acting Minister at Lucknow, Hyder Beg, entertained apprehensions of the fidelity of Almas Ally Khan, who has withdrawn his family from that capital, and is assembling, it seems, the considerable force under his command at his cantonments of Koder-cote, not far from Secundia; in consequence the Vizier, who is on a hunting excursion, at a distance from his metropolis, has made a requisition for another regiment to reinforce the troops at that station.

The

The Resident at the Durbar has advised me, that he is not himself of opinion, that the views of Almas are dangerous, or that he holds any foreign connection inimical to his master; and that he has given him every encouragement to proceed to Lucknow, and to rely upon the favour and protection of both governments.

As the emissaries of Almas pervade all the English quarters, in order to accelerate his compliance with the Resident's invitation, I have issued public orders for the brigade to be ready to move on the earliest notice, and have directed an encampment to be marked out, and the tents pitched for the sake of appearance of preparation, which may produce, probably, its intended effects.

I am, &c.

(Signed) G. IRONSIDE,  
Coll.

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To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council—St Department.

Gentlemen,

I yesterday did myself the honour of enclosing to you a copy of a letter which I had received from Colonel Ironside, communicating to me the apprehensions entertained of Almas Ally Cawn, and the precautions that had been taken in consequence. I have now the pleasure to lay before you copy of another letter from the Colonel, by which you will perceive that those apprehensions were groundless, and the movement of the troops unnecessary.

I have the honour, &c.

Fort William,  
7th Febr. 1785.

(Signed) G. STIBBERT.

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Cawnpoor, 31st January 1785.

To Major General Stibbert, Commander in chief.

Sir,

Since my letter to you of yesterday, I have received a letter from the Resident at the Durbar, advising me of Almas Ally Cawn having readily complied with his desire to repair to Lucknow; and desiring, in consequence, that the procedure of another native regiment to that place may be for the present postponed.

I am, &c.

(Signed) G. IRONSIDE,  
Colonel.

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To the Honourable John Macpherson, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council—Secret Department.

Gentlemen,

I do myself the honour of enclosing, for your information, copy of a letter which I yesterday received from Colonel Sir John Cumming, advising me that, at the requisition of the Vizier, he had detached two regiments of sepoy under Colonel Knudson to protect the Rohilcund against the Seiks. The plan which Sir J. Cumming has ordered Colonel Knudson to observe not appearing to me the best adapted for the defence of the Rohilcund, I thought it necessary to give him my opinion thereon; with which the Board will be acquainted by perusing the accompanying copy of my answer to him.

I have the honour, &c.

Fort William,  
13th Febr. 1785.

(Signed) G. STIBBERT.

To Major General Stibbert, Commander in chief, &c.

Sir,

In consequence of some late depredations that have been committed by the Seiks in the upper parts of the Rohilcund, his Excellency the Vizier has at length been induced to *require* a detachment from this station for the protection of that country. In consequence of this requisition, Lieutenant Colonel Knudson, with two regiments of sepoy, and four six-pounders, that have been some time past under orders of March, will march to-morrow morning towards Anop-sheere. Colonel Knudson will be instructed to keep his detachment in continual motion on the Western side of the Ganges, which I conceive to be the most effectual mode of covering the Rohilcund from the further incursions of the Seiks, who will be deterred from crossing the river, by the danger of having their retreat cut off by our troops on this side.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Futty Ghur,  
31st Janry. 1785.

Your most obedient,  
humble Servant,  
(Signed) JOHN CUMMING,  
Colonel.

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Colonel Sir John Cumming, commanding at Futty Ghur.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 31st January, informing me, in consequence of the depredations committed by the Seiks in the Rohilcund, a detachment of two regiments of sepoy, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Knudson, was to march from your station on the day following, for the protection of that country.

The plan which you have laid down for the conduct of Colonel Knudson, if the protection of the Rohilcund be the sole object, is not, according to my apprehension, so well adapted to the purpose, as the mode usually pursued, of defending the Gauts on the eastern side of the Ganges. If Colonel Knudson were to take post on that side of the river, he might guard with small detachments the passage of the Gauts, and repel any attempts made by the Seiks to cross; whereas, if he remain on the Western side, he must keep his detachment together, and the Seiks by a rapid march, may elude his vigilance, pass the river at a distance from him, and when they have ravaged the country, return with the same rapidity, either at the Gaut where they first crossed, or at any other from which he is distant, without his being able to come up with them, *their* forces being all cavalry, and *his* only infantry, encumbered with guns. In short, the plan I have mentioned, appears to me the most eligible, inasmuch as it is more prudent to prevent, if possible, the invasion of an enemy, than to trust to the contingency of cutting off his retreat, when about to retire with the plunder of the country. I shall not however take upon me to direct any alteration in the orders which you have given to Colonel Knudson, as it may probably be your intention that this detachment shall not only cover the Rohilcund, but protect the upper part of the Doab; to effect both which purposes, if no further troops can be spared from your station, the line of conduct you have pointed out to the Colonel might, perhaps, be the best that can be observed.

I observe that you have not detached with Colonel Knudson, the Rossolah of cavalry, which might, I think, be employed with good effect on the service he might be engaged in; it is not likely that this corps will be wanted at Futty Ghur, and it should not lie idle when its services are required.

I am, Sir,

Fort William,  
13th February 1785.

Your most obedient  
humble Servant,  
(Signed) G. STIBBERT.

To

To the Honourable John Macpherson, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council—Secret Department.

Gentlemen,

I do myself the honour of laying before you copy of a letter which I last night received from Colonel Sir John Cumming, informing me, that he was in expectation of an immediate requisition from the Vizier to march his whole detachment for the protection of the western frontier, apparently threatened with an incursion from the Seiks in conjunction with Scindia.

The Board have already been advised of the incursions of the Seiks, and of the measures which have been taken to restrain them: If they alone are concerned in those hostilities, the detachment under Colonel Knudson, and the movement of the remaining force from Futtly Ghurr, will be sufficient to repulse them; but if Scindia has entered into a combination, and assists their invasion, it would be proper, that the 3d brigade should move from Cawnpore towards *Etowah*.—However, as there is a Resident from this government in the camp of Scindia, it is scarcely possible, that designs so hostile to the Ally of the Company could have been formed, and brought so near to execution, without his obtaining a knowledge thereof; and as he, no doubt, has a full communication with the Board, he would not fail to apprize them of every circumstance that could tend to create a suspicion of Scindia.

Though I have mentioned the propriety of moving the 3d brigade, in the event of Scindia's conjunction with the Seiks, yet I do not think it necessary to recommend its march, without stronger grounds than the surmises of the Vizier, and his minister.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

(Signed) G. STIBBERT.

Fort William,  
16th February 1785.

Futtly Ghurr, 4th February, 1785.

Major General Stibbert, Commander in Chief, &c. &c.

Sir,

I have the honour to acquaint you, that I this day received a letter from Major Palmer, advising me, that his Excellency the Vizier, and his minister, apprehended a combination to be formed betwixt Scindia and the Seiks, of a nature hostile to the Vizier; and that a requisition will arrive to-morrow for the march of the whole detachment. I have reason to believe that the Seiks have been encouraged by Scindia to commit depredations in the Vizier's provinces; but I am of opinion that his views extend no further than to divert our attention from the measures he is now pursuing, to the defence of our frontiers against the incursions of the Seiks. There appears, however, to be good ground to apprehend, that large bodies of Seiks are preparing to attack the Vizier's provinces; for which reason I approve the measure of putting the whole detachment in motion, and I shall march immediately on receipt of the requisition. I shall dispose the force under my command so as most effectually to ensure the safety and peace of the country; and whenever any thing material occurs, I shall give you the earliest intelligence of it.

Two battalions of the Nabob's sepoys will be sent hither to protect the magazine, cantonments, and city of Furruckabad, in the absence of the detachment.

I have the honour to be,

&c. &c.

(Signed) JOHN CUMMING,

Colonel

Ordered, That the Secretary do acknowledge the Board's receipt of the foregoing letters from the Commander in Chief.

Read

Read the following letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, and Members of the Supreme Council, in their Secret Department.

Honourable Sirs,

I have the honour to inform you, that, in consequence of a requisition from his Excellency the Vizier, I detached two regiments of sepoys and four guns, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Knudson, on the 1st instant, towards Anopshire, for the purpose of covering Rohilcund from the incursions of the Seiks. And I have this day received intimation from Major Palmer, that, on account of apprehensions entertained by the Vizier, and his minister, of a combination being entered into betwixt Scindia and the Seiks, inimical to the Vizier, a requisition will arrive to-morrow for the march of the whole detachment. Although my intelligence authorizes me to believe, that Scindia has given encouragement to the Seiks to invade his Excellency the Vizier's dominions, yet I am not of opinion that he himself will take any steps of a hostile nature. I impute the friendly intercourse that has lately taken place betwixt him and certain Sirdars of the Seiks, to a wish, on his part, of preserving the country he has lately taken under his protection from being ravaged by these freebooters, and of diverting our attention from the ambitious measures he is now pursuing, to the defence of our frontiers from an irruption of the Seiks. As there appears, however, to be good ground to believe that large bodies of Seiks are meditating an attack upon the Vizier's provinces, I approve the measure of putting the detachment in motion, which shall be done immediately on my receipt of the requisition. I shall afterwards make such a disposition of the force under my command, as, I trust, will effectually insure the safety of his Excellency's dominions; and whenever any thing occurs, which I think sufficiently interesting for your attention, I will not fail to advise you of it.

In consequence of my application to that purpose, to his Excellency the Vizier, two battalions of his sepoys will be sent hither to protect the magazine, cantonments, and city of Furruckabad, in the absence of the detachment.

I have only further to assure your Honourable Board, that, in obeying the Vizier's orders to put the detachment in motion, I shall be particularly watchful not to suffer any expence to be incurred by the Company, which can possibly be avoided.

I have the honour to be,

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Your most obedient and very  
humble Servant,

(Signed) JOHN CUMMING,  
Colonel.

Camp, at Futtu Ghurr,  
February 4th, 1784.

Ordered, That the Secretary do acknowledge the Board's receipt of the foregoing letter from Sir John Cumming.

The Governor General lays before the Board the following letters from Major Brown to Mr. Hastings.

Deig, January 22d, 1785.

Honourable Sir,

My last address was dated the 17th instant, and enclosed the news of the great camp of the Seiks having passed the Ganges into the Vizier's country. I have now the honour to forward another paper from their camp, near Sumbul, giving an account of the devastation of his Excellency's country, up to the 4th of Rubbee ul Awul (or January 16); and that without resistance. This has given an impression on the minds of the Sirdars here very much to the disadvantage of that respect for the strength and activity of the English government, which has always been, and always must be, its greatest, if not its only security, from attempts to invade its possessions, or those of its allies.

I am, with the greatest respect,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedt Servant,

(Signed) JAMES BROWNE.

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Esq.  
Governor General, &c. &c.

TRANSLA.

## TRANSLATION.

INTELLIGENCE of the Seik Army, dated the 4th of Rubbie ul Awul, at Bownannee Pose, 4 Cofs from Sekill, enclosed in Major Browne's Letter of the 22d January; received 15th February 1785.

Goordut Sing, and Mukeil Sing, and other chiefs who were encamped here, and who every day, mounted their horses, attacked Jedosee, and returned to their camp, on the 22d totally destroyed the village of Refee and Mahomed Pose, inhabited by the Seyeds; and having again attacked Jedosee, returned to their tents. They consulted, and agreed to plunder Mooradabad. On the morning of the third, being Friday, part of the army went towards Moora dabad, when a messenger arrived, and informed them, that Jeetoo Loll and Sotharam, and Bowan Burmy Khan, the renter of the duties, who were in Jedosee, and had defended it, made their escape in the middle of the night; and that the merchants of that place were conveying their property to different places: All the chiefs have consulted, and having countermanded the march of the army towards Mooradabad, went immediately towards Jedosee. As it was 5 cofs off, they arrived at the gate at 9 o'clock, and attacked it. The peons of the merchants, who were in readiness, kept up a short engagement with muskets; but at last the gate was broken, and the Sheik Sirdars entered, and set fire to all the houses and markets, and plundered all the property. They remained employed all day and night in plundering, and many lack of goods and money came into their hands. Burmy Khan, the renter of the duties, hearing this, went and conveyed his family two days journey to the Gurra of Burraoly. To-day, the 4th, all the chiefs are marched off: We shall see what quarter they may go to. Wherever they go, they immediately destroy every thing by fire. Beem Sing, the son of Golaub Sing, with 500 horse, crossed over at the Ghaut of Cummerud Dianuagur, and destroyed the county of Buckrawan and Seleempore, and Guna Seer Mahomed Khan; and no chief has, as yet, taken any measures in consequence of this disturbance. Whatever may happen shall be written.

Honourable Sir,

Deig, January 24th, 1785.

My last address was dated the 22d; and now I have the particular pleasure of enclosing you an account of the expulsion of the Seiks from Rohilcund, by the English and the Vizier's troops. This will effectually remove the ill consequences which, in my last, I expressed my apprehension of. As to the Seiks threat of returning, I do not believe that they will attempt it; and if they do, it is very easy to repel them when we are upon our guard.

With the greatest Respect, I am,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient

humble Servant,

The Honourable W. Hastings, Esquire,  
Governor General, &c. &c.

(Signed)

JAMES BROWNE.

Deig, January 28th 1785.

Honourable Sir,

My last address was dated the 24th instant, since which I have had the advice of the Seiks marching twice successively in a direction towards their own possessions in the Doab: but the enclosed paper, just received from their Camp, and dated the 12th of Rubbi ul Awul, conveys the intelligence of their having again directed their march towards Sukertal, where the Ganges is fordable: Time must discover whether they mean to cross over or not.

I am, with the greatest Respect,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient

humble Servant,

The Honourable W. Hastings, Esquire,  
Governor General.

(Signed)

JAMES BROWNE.

## TRANSLATION.

INTELLIGENCE of the Seik Army, dated the 12th Rubbi ul Awul, from the Neighbourhood of Berhampore, five cofs on this side the river from Daranagur, enclosed in Major Browne's letter of the 28th January; received the 15th February 1785.

On the 11th the Seik army was encamped between the Rancheet Gurra and Boffoly.—Sirdar Mukkul Sing, and Jeffa Sing Ram Rudma, having consulted together, proposed for marching, but as Sirdar Kurrum Sing was arrived near Gohurlungia, which is about 15 cofs from Runcheet Ghurra, Goordat Sing, and Lowan Sing Bhaag, and other chiefs, sent word to Mukkul Sing they ought to remain encamped that day, and after the arrival of Khurrun Sing they might march to whatever quarter they might all approve. Mukkul Sing sent for answer, that as they were ready to march, they could not possibly remain; that Kurrum Sing might join them in their next encampment, in the country belonging to Rajah Golaub Sing. But Moher Sing agreeing to give Mukkul Sing some presents, he consented to stay, and did not march away till near noon. After they marched about 12 cofs, they arrived, and encamped near Berrampore, and went forth to plunder the villages of the Purgunnah Pehokundency of all their grain and seed.—To-day, the 12th, they remain encamped; those, and all the chiefs, being assembled, consulted. It is reported that letters from the army of Mahajee Scindia are received by the chiefs, but their particulars are not known.—They left the army, and went under the trees, where they held Consultation, and read the letters.—We hear from some of them, that Mukkeel Sing had advice that their plunder should be sent to the other side the Jumno, and the army be advanced to Pehokundeng, which is 12 cofs distant, and that the baggage being left with the army, 10 or 15 thousand horse, being crossed again over the river, should go plundering as far as Bareilly. They have sent horsemen to look for a Ghaut, and are expecting the arrival of Veurum Sing.—Whatever may happen shall be written.

Honourable Sir,

Deig, February 1st 1785.

My last address was dated the 28th ulto.—This is intruded solely to advise you of the death of the Nawaub Zabita Cawn, which happened at Ghosgur, the 27th ulto, suddenly, of an indigestion.

Golaun Kaudir Khan, his eldest son, left his father's court some years ago, and took protection with Sindia, who lately reconciled them, and sent the young man back to his father. It is probable that Sindia will support him in the succession, on certain terms. At present the Seiks are likely to interfere, the grand camp being in that district, and this may produce hostilities between them and the Mahrattas.

The fort Agra will very soon be in Sindia's possession, by a secret treaty between him and the Kellidar.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES BROWNE.

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire,  
Governor General, &c. &c.

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EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultation, the 19th February 1785.

Read the following letter, and its enclosures, from the Accountant General.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Council of Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

In obedience to your orders of the 13th December, I have now the honour to transmit an account, exhibiting the differences between the sums monthly charged to the debit of his Excellency the Vizier, for the brigade statement at Cawnpore, and regiment at Lucknow, and for the

the Futtu Ghur detachment, and the actual expence of the same, as stated to me in the accompanying two accounts, with which this office has been furnished by the military Paymaster General, and Accountant to the Board of ordnance.

I must also observe, that in the account before mentioned no allowance whatever is made for contingent expences; and it should seem that, exclusive of whatever these may amount to, the difference will be augmented, inasmuch as a part of the troops which now are stationed at Cawnpore and Futtu Ghur, which for the major part of the year 1783-4 composed a part of the Bombay detachment, the expence of these in the ordnance department cannot have been stated in the accompanying account at so much as it will probably amount to in 1784-5.

The Accountant to the Board of ordnance received from this office an application similar to that which was transmitted to the military Paymaster General; I am confident that he would have complied with it, by more recent documents, did the state of the accounts of his department as readily admit of his furnishing immediately an account of the expence of any given period, differing from that for which the books of his department are formed, which, with respect to amount, are annually, not monthly.

Fort William,  
Accountant Genl's Office,  
the 14th Janry 1785.

I have the Honour to be,

With the greatest Respect,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedt humble Servt,

(Signed)

WM LARKINS,

Acc<sup>t</sup> Genl

An

An ACCOUNT exhibiting the Differences between the Sums monthly charged to the Debit of his Excellency the Nabob Vizier, for the Brigade stationed at Cawnpore, and regiment at Lucknow, and for the Futtu Ghur Detachment, and the actual expence of the same.

Brigade at Cawnpore.			
Amount of the actual expence of the troops stationed at Cawnpore, for the month of September 1784, calculated agreeable to the muster rolls in the Adjutant General's office, shewing the actual strength at those stations on 30th of that month, as stated by the Military Paymaster General	-	3,11,511 13 5	
Amount of the charges of the above, in the ordnance department, in 1783-4, as stated by the Accountant to that department; which, including the expence of the regiment at Lucknow, being curr <sup>t</sup> Rs 1,40,996. 10. 6, supposing a deduction made therefrom, for a proportion of these on account of that regiment, or current rupees 10,809. 7. 11, and the remainder to be divided by 12, one month may be considered as	-	10,848 14 11	
		3,22,360 12 4	
The sum monthly charged to the Nabob Vizier on this account is	-		
Fyzabad 16 Sun Sa Rs	2,60,000 0 0		
Batta 11 per cent.	- 28,600 0 0		
		2,88,600 0 0	
			33,760 12 4
Futtu Gurr Detachment.			
Amount of the actual expence of this in the Military Paymaster General's department, as above	- - -	2,01,960 10 10	
Amount of the charges in the Ordnance Department, as above, per annum, 99,324. 10. 6½	- - -	8,277 0 10	
		2,10,237 11 8	
The sum monthly charged to the Nabob Vizier on this account is	-		
Fyzabad 16 Sun Sa Rs	1,45,000 0 0		
Batta 11 per cent.	- 15,950 0 0		
		1,60,950 0 0	
			49,287 11 8
Deduct.			83,048 8 0
Regiment at Lucknow.			
Amount of the actual expence of this in the Military Paymaster General's office, as above	- - -	25,864 15 6	
Proportion of the expence of the Ordnance department, as above		900 12 8	
		26,765 12 2	
The sum monthly charged to the Nabob Vizier on this account is	-		
Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca Rs	25,000 0 0		
Batta 11 per cent.	- 2,750 0 0		
		27,750 0 0	
			984 3 10
Total, exclusive of contingencies, &c. CRs	-		82,064 4 2

Fort William,  
Accountant General's Office,  
14th Janry. 1785.

E. E.  
(Signed) W. LARKINS,  
Account General.

A true Copy.  
E. Hay, Secy.

An ACCOUNT of the actual expence of the troops stationed at Cawnpore, and those at Futty Ghur, for the month of September 1784, calculated agreeable to the Muster Rolls in the Adjutant General's office: Shewing the actual Strength at these Stations on the 30th of that month.

The 3d Brigade, at Cawnpore.			
Artillery Corps.			
European Artillery.			
3d Company, with Staff, &c.			
Sont Rs 14,505	—	—	
Native Artillery.			
2d Company, with Staff, &c.	4,923	—	—
Artillery Lascars.			
3d Battalion, with Staff, &c.	3,434	—	—
Lascar Artificers for the train, &c.	2,894	8	—
Do, under the Quarter master of artillery	909	15	—
Ordnance, &c. Artificers attached to the Magazine	2,030	—	—
Medical Allowance	450	—	—
	29,146	7	— or 32,352 8 10
European Infantry.			
3d Regiment, with Staff, &c.	64,945	12	—
Lascars, Artificers, &c. attached to the Regiment	4,880	13	—
Medical Allowance	2,600	—	—
	71,926	9	— or 79,8 38 7 9
Sepoy Corps.			
6th Regiment, with Staff, &c.	C. Rs 24,151	13	10
16th Do — Do — —	21,555	9	4
17th Do — Do — —	22,789	10	0
19th Do — Do — —	23,413	2	7
29th Do — Do — —	23,357	1	9
35th Do — Do — —	24,263	11	3
Staff to the Sepoy Corps, including Lascars, &c. under the Quarter Master	13,131	4	10
			1,52,662 5 7
Brigade Staff	—	—	18,475 15 2
2d Ruffallah of Cavalry	—	—	11,682 8 1
Contractors for Camels, Bullocks, and Elephants	9,700	0	0
Commissaries of Supplies for Stores, &c.	2,883	0	0
Post Master, and Establishment for Dawks	2,117	0	0
Secret Services and Contingencies	1,300	0	0
Dawk Charges	500	0	0
			16,500 0 0
			3,11,511 13 5
Lucknow Station.			
20th Regiment of Sepoys, stationed there, with Staff, &c.	—	—	25,864 15 6
Carried over	—	—	3,37,376 12 11

Brought over	—	—	—	—	3,37,376	12	11
Futty Ghur Detachment.							
Artillery Corps.							
European Artillery.							
9th company, with staff, &c.							
Sr R,	11,856	0	0				
Native Artillery.							
6th company, with staff, &c.	4,923	0	0				
Artillery Lascars.							
9th battalion, with staff, &c.	3,232	0	0				
Medical allowance	—	450	0	0			
Lascars and artificers attached to the train	—	2,894	8	0			
Do, — Do. under the Quarter Master	—	909	15	0			
Ordnance, with Lascars, &c. attached to the magazine	2,867	0	0				
				27,132	7	0	0
					30,117	0	0
Sepoy Corps.							
1st regiment, with staff, &c.	—	24,936	1	5			
2d Do. Do.	—	25,880	6	8			
4th Do. Do.	—	23,757	7	3			
5th Do. Do.	—	25,004	15	7			
18th Do. Do.	—	21,266	6	8			
Staff to the Sepoy corps, including Lascars, &c. under the Quarter Master	—	8,317	12	6			
Staff to the detachment.	—	—	—	—	1,29,163	2	1
1st ruffallah of cavalry	—	—	—	—	17,498	0	8
Contractors for bullocks, camels, and elephants	—	—	—	—	11,682	8	1
Commissaries of supplies for stores, &c.	—	9,700	0	0			
Secret services and contingencies	—	2,000	0	0			
Dawk charges	—	1,300	0	0			
		500	0	0			
					13,500	0	0
Total expence of the troops serving in the Vizier's dominions for Sept. 1784	—	—	—	—	2,01,960	10	10
					5,39,337	7	9
							C. R.

Military Paymaster General's Office, January 7th 1785.

E. E.

(Signed)

CLAUD ALEXANDER,

Paymr Gl.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,  
Secry.

ACCOUNT

ACCOUNT of the Charges in the Ordnance Department of the Brigade stationed at Cawnpore (including the regiment at Lucknow) and of the Detachment under the Command of Col. Sir John Cumming, from the 30th April 1783 to the 30th April 1784.

Expence of the magazine with the brigade at Cawnpore	—	Ct Rs	62,718	1	8	}	1,40,966 10 6	{ Including the Ex- pence of the Regt at Lucknow.
Do. of the brigade, for the wear of arms and accoutrements	—		21,942	7	11			
Do. of Do. for ammunition	—		56,336	0	11			
Expence of the magazine with Col. Cum- mings's Detachment	—		22,618	3	9	}	99,324 10 6	
Do. of the detachment, for the wear of arms and accoutrements	—		38,668	0	2			
Do. of Do. for ammunition	—		38,038	6	7			
Total Ct Rupees			2,40,321			5 0		

Ordnance Department,  
21st Decr 1784.

(Signed) JOHN MACINTYRE,  
Accompt Ordne Departmt.

A true Copy.  
E. Hay,  
Secry.

The Secretary lays before the Board the following letters from the Accomptant at Lucknow; and acquaints them, that the accounts transmitted with them have been communicated to the Accomptant General.

To Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary.

Sir,

Inclosed you will be pleased to receive my treasury, and the Nabob Vizier's, accounts for the month of December 1784, which I request you will lay before the Honourable Board.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient

Humble Servant,

(Signed)

J. WOMBWELL,

Accomptant.

Accomptant's Office,  
Lucknow, the 8th of Janry. 1785.

To Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary.

Sir,

An error having arisen in the calculation of the sum to be deducted on account of the army donation in the month of November, I have to request you will substitute the inclosed accounts of his Excellency the Nabob Vizier, for November and December, in the room of those I had formerly the pleasure of transmitting to you.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient and humble Servant,

(Signed)

J. WOMBWELL,

Accomptant.

Accomptant's Office,  
Lucknow, the 27th Janry. 1785.

To Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary.

Sir,

I request the favour of your laying before the Honourable Board the accompanying treasury, and Nabob Vizier's, accounts for the month of January 1785.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient and humble Servant,

(Signed)

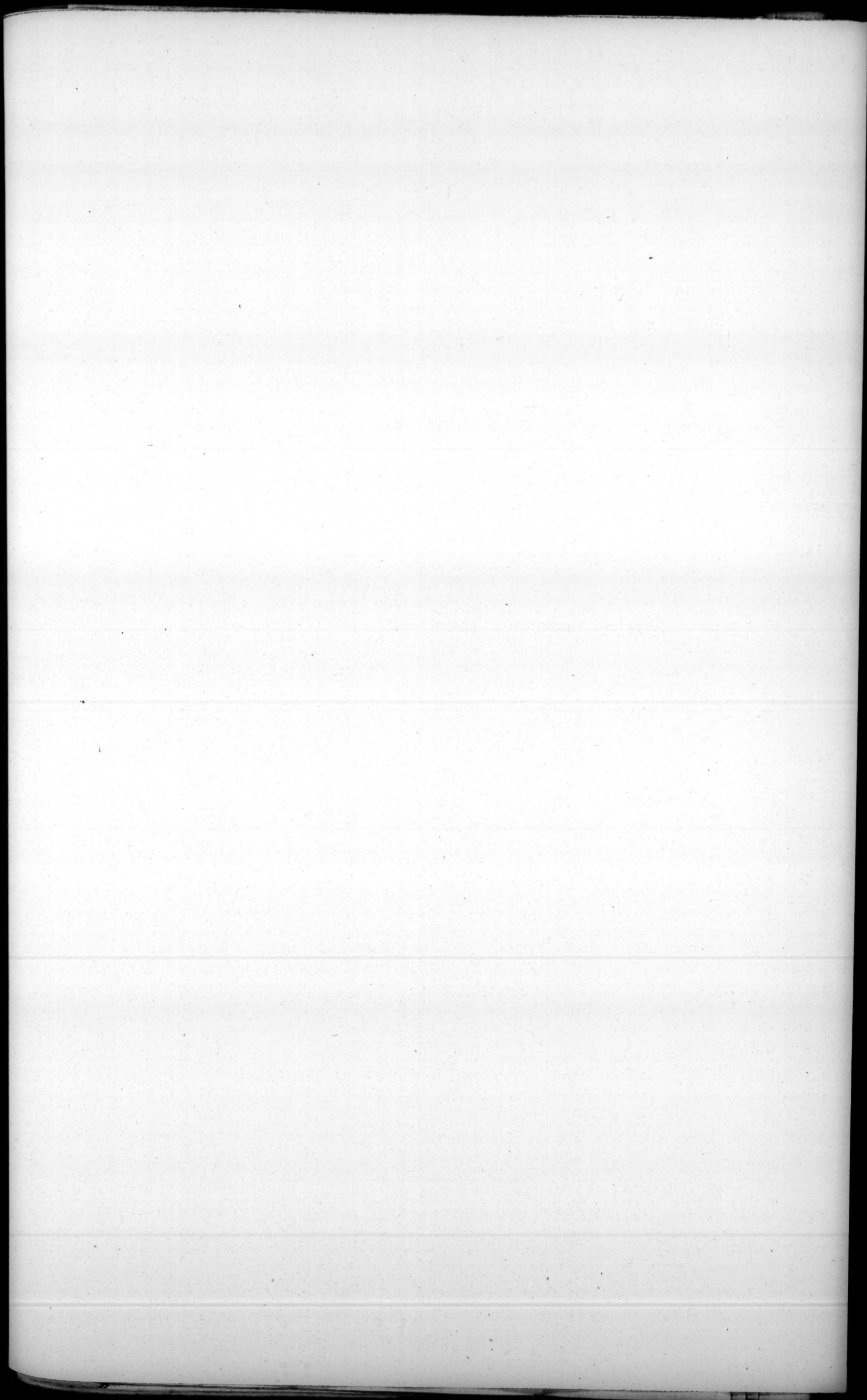
J. WOMBWELL,

Accomptant.

Accomptant's Office,  
Lucknow, the 8th February 1785.

Ordered, That the accounts inclosed in the foregoing letters be entered after the consultation.

NABOB



NABOB VIZIER in Account with the Honourable Governor General and Council, from the 1st to  
Maugbud 1192.

To balance due the 30th of November 1784, or 3d of Phoosebud, 1194	—	—	41,39,958	5	4
To Army Subsidy.					
For one brigade, according to the old establishment	2,60,000	0	0		
For one regiment stationed at Lucknow, according to the new establishment	—	—	25,000	0	0
For five regiments of sepoy, and one company of artillery, under Col. Sir John Cumming	—	—	1,45,000	0	0
			4,30,000	0	0
To Mirza Sawdit Ally's Stipend.					
For one month, at 2,00,000 per annum	—	—	16,666	10	8
To Rohilla Stipends.					
Paid them for Phoose	—	—	5,131	8	0
To Interest on Mr. Frazer's Bond.					
One month, on 40,546, the balance due on the bond the 30th of November, at 8 per cent. per annum	—	—	270	4	0
					4,52,068 6 8
Fyz <sup>d</sup> 16 Sun Sicca Rupees	—	—	—	—	45,92,026 12 0
Balance due on Mr. Frazer's bond the 30th Nov.	40,546	0	0		
Deduct, The proportion of the receipts that the balance due on the bond bears to the whole amount due by the Vizier the 30th Nov.	—	—	19,587	0	0
Remains due on the bond	—	—	20,959	0	0
Balance due on account of the army donation	2,20,785	0	0		
Deduct, The proportion of the receipts that the balance due on the bond bears to the whole amount due by the Vizier, the 30th November	—	—	1,06,659	0	0
Remains due on account of the donation, 31st December	—	—	1,14,126	0	0

Lucknow, the 1st of January 1785.

the 1st to the 31st of December, 1784, or from the 4th of Phoofebud to the 5th of

Cr

4	By amount received, as per treasury account — —	20,00,000 0 0
	By balance due the 31st of December 1784, or the 5th of Maugbud 1192. — —	25,92,026 12 0
8		
0	Fyzd 16 Sun Sicca Rupees —	<u>45,92,026 12 0</u>

January 1785, or 6 Maugbud 1192.

Errors excepted,

J. WOMBWELL, Accomptant.

( 2 )

TREASURY ACCOUNT of the Accountant at Lucknow, from the 1st to the 31st

Dr

To balance remaining in the Treasury the 30th November, or 3d of Phoosebud 1192 - - -

— —

5,09,505 9 6

To the Nabob Vizier.

Received from Hyder Beg Cawn the  
Kift for Phoose, in bills of exchange  
on Calcutta - Ca Sa Rs 10,00,000 0 0  
In bills of exchange on Surat, Surt  
Chitten Rs 5,00,000 0 0

15,00,000 0 0

Exchange 5½ per cent. - 82,500 0 0

15,82,500 0 0

In cash - - - - -

4,17,500 0 6

20,00,000 0 0

Fyzd 16 Sun Sicca Rupees - - -

— —

25,09,505 9 6

1784.

December 31st. Balance due the Shroffs, on account the  
money borrowed from them in June  
1783 - - - Lw Sa Rs

13,61,055 7 6

Lucknow, the 1st

ft to the 31st of December 1784, or from the 4th of Phoosebud to the 5th of Maugbud, 1192.

C

6	By Fort William Presidency.			
	Remitted the Honourable Board bill of exchange on Calcutta - Ca Sa Rs	10,00,0000	0 0	
	Exchange, 5½ per cent. -	55,000	0 0	
				10,55,000 0 0
	Remitted the Chief at Surat, bills of exchange on Surat for Surat Chitten Rupees - - -	5,00,000	0 0	
	Exchange 5½ per cent. -	27,500	0 0	
				5,27,500 0 0
	Paid the Paymaster General, as per his receipt of the 31st December, for ct rupees - -	5,27,250	0 0	
				4,75,000 0 0
	Paid Mr. J. P. Scott, in part of the Honourable Governor General's orders in his favour - - -			20,000 0 0
	Paid Mr. Blain his salary, as Surgeon, to Dec. Ca Sa Rs 1,250, or - -	1,312	8 0	
	Ditto Mr. Wombwell his salary, as Accountant, for Dec. Ca Sa Rs 2,600, or	2,730	0 0	
	Ditto Mr. Wheler his salary, as Assistant to the Accountant, for Dec. -	1,000	0 0	
				5,042 8 0
	By the Nabob Vizier.			20,82,542 8 0
	Paid the Rohillas for Phoose - - -			5,131 8 0
				20,87,674 0 0
	By balance remaining in the Treasury the 31st of December 1784, or the 5th of Maugbud 1192 - - -			4,21,831 9 6
6	Fyzd Sun Sicca Rupees -			25,09,505 9 6

w, the 1st of January, 1785, or the 6th of Maugbud 1192.

Errors excepted.

J. WOMBWELL, Accountant.

NABOB VIZIER in Account with the Honourable Governor General and Council, from the 1st to the

Dr

To balance due the 31st of October, or 3d of Aughunbūd, 1192	—	—	41,87,853	3	5	By
To Army Subsidy.						By
For One Brigade, according to the Old Establishment	2,60,000	0	0			
For One Regiment stationed at Lucknow, according to the New Establishment	25,000	0	0			
For Five Regiments of Sepoys, and One Company of Artillery, under Colonel Sir John Cumming	1,45,000	0	0			
			4,30,000	0	0	
To Mirza Saudit Ally's Stipend.						
For One Month, at 200,000 per Annum			16,666	0	0	
To Rohilla Stipends.						
Paid them for Aughun			5,131	8	0	
To Interest on Mr. Frazer's Bond.						
One Month, on 46,043, the Balance due the 31st of October, at 8 per Cent per Annum			306	15	3	
					4,52,105	1 11
Fyz <sup>d</sup> 16 Sun Sicca Rupees	—	—	46,39,958	5	4	
Balance due Accot Mr. Frazer's Bond the 31st October	46,043	0	0			
Deduct, The Proportion of the Receipts that the Balance due on the Bond bears to the whole Amount due by the Vizier the 31st Oct	5,479	0	0			
Remains due on Accot the Bond the 30th Novr			40,546	0	0	
Balance due on Accot of Army Donation the 31st of October	2,51,881	0	0			
Deduct, The Proportion of the Receipts that the Balance due on Accot the Donation bears to the whole Amount due by Vizier the 31st October	30,073	0	0			
Remains due Accot the Donation 30th November			2,21,808	0	0	

Lucknow, 1st December 1784, or 4th

Errors excepted,

3 0 2

J. W C

ft to the 30th November 1784, or from the 4th of Aughun to the 3d Phoofebud 1192.

Cr

5	By Amount received, as per the Accountant's Treasury Account - - - - -	5,00,000 0 0
	By Balance due the 30th November 1784, or 3d Phoofebud 1192 - - - - -	41,39,958 5 4
11		
4	Fyza 16 Sun Sicca Rupees -	46,39,958 5 4

34, or 4th Phoofebuddie 1192.

d,

J. WOMBWELL, Acct.

NABOB

(

**NABOB VIZIER in Account with the Honourable Governor General and Council**

Dr

To Balance due the 30th November 1784, or 3d Phoosebuddie 1192			41,39
To Army Subsidy.			
For One Brigade, according to the Old Establishment	2,60,000	0 0	
For One Regiment stationed at Lucknow, according to the New Establishment	25,000	0 0	
For Five Regiments of Sepoys, and One Company of Artillery, under Colonel Sir John Cumming	1,45,000	0 0	
		4,30,000	0 0
For Mirza Saudit Ally's Stipend.			
For One Month, at 2,00,000 per Annum		16,666	10 8
To Rohilla Stipends			
Paid them for Phoose		5,131	8 0
To Interest on Mr. Frazer's Bond			
One Month, on 40,546, the Balance due on the Bond the 30th of November, at 8 per Cent per Annum		270	4 0
			4,5
	Fyzd 16 Sun Sicca Rupees		45,9
Balance due on Mr. Frazer's Bond the 30th November	40,546	0 0	
Deduct, the Proportion of the Receipts that the Bond bears to the whole Amount due by the Vizier to the 30th November	19,587	0 0	
Remains due on Account the Bond the 30th Novr 84		20,959	0 0
Balance due Account the Army Donation the 30th November	2,21,808	0 0	
Deduct, The Proportion of the Account not the Balance due on Account the Donation bears to the whole Amount due by the Nabob 30th November	1,07,154	0 0	
Remains due Account the Donation 31st Decr 84		1,14,654	0 0

Luc

and Council, from the 1st to the 31st December 1784, or from the 4th Poose to 5th Maugbud 1192.

C.

41,39,958 5 4	By Amount received, as per the Accountant's Treasury Account - - - - -	20,00,000 0 0
	By Balance due the 31st December 1784, or 5th Maugbud 1192 - - - - -	25,92,026 12 0
45,2,068 6 8		
45,92,026 12 0	Fyza 16 Sun Sicca Rupees -	45,92,026 12 0

Lucknow 1st January 1785, the, or 6th Maugbuddie 1192.

Errors excepted,

(Signed) J. WOMBELL, Accountant,

NABOB

NABOB VIZIER in Account with the Honourable Governor General and Council, from the 1st to the 1192.

Dr

To balance, due the 31st of December 1784, or 5th Maugbud 1192	—	—	25,92,026 12 0
To Army Subsidy.			
For one brigade, according to the old establishment	2,60,000	0 0	
For one regiment stationed at Lucknow, according to the new establishment	—	25,000 0 0	
For five regiments of sepoy, and one company of artillery, under Col. Sir John Cumming	—	1,45,000 0 0	
			4,30,000 0 0
To Mirza Sawdit Ally's Stipend.			
For one month, at 2,00,000 per annum	—	—	16,666 10 8
To Rohilla Stipends.			
For the month of Maug	—	—	5,131 8 0
To Interest on Mr. Frazer's Bond.			
For one month on 20,959, the balance due on the bond the 31st of December, at 8 per cent. per annum	—	—	139 11 7
			4,51,937 14 3
Fyz <sup>d</sup> 16 fun ficca rupees	—	—	30,43,964 10 3
Balance due on Mr. Frazer's bond 31st Dec <sup>r</sup>	—	20,959 0 0	
Deduct, The proportion of the receipts that the balance due on the bond bears to the whole amount due by the Vizier the 31st of December	—	2,627 0 0	
Remains due on the bond 31st Jan	—	—	18,332 0 0
Balance due on account the army donation, 31st December	—	—	1,14,654 0 0
Deduct, The proportion of the receipts that the balance due on account the donation bears to the whole amount due by the Vizier, the 31st December	—	—	14,375 0 0
Remains due on account the army donation, 31st Jan	—	—	1,00,279 0 0

Lucknow, the 1st of February

]

the 1st to the 31st of January 1785, or from the 6th of Maugbud to the 6th of Phaugunbud

Cr

12 0	By amount received, as per the treasury account	—	32,55,000 0 0
	By balance due the 31st of January 1783, or 6th of Phaugun-	—	27,18,964 10 3
	bud 1192.	—	
7 14 3			
4 10 3	Fyzd 16 sun ficca rupees	—	30,43,964 10 3

of February 1785, or 7th of Phaugunbud 1192.

Errors excepted.

J. WOMBWELL, Accomptant.

TREASURY ACCOUNT of the Accomptant at Lucknow, from the 1st to the 3

Dr.

To balance remaining in the treasury 1st of December 1784, or 5th of Maugbud 1192	- - -	4,21,831 9 6	Paid Mr. Womb nuary, for cur
To the Nabob Vizier.			
Received from Hyder Beg Cawn the kift for Maug	-	3,25,500 0 0	Paid Mr. J. P. S orders in his fav
			Paid Mr. J. W
			By the Nabob Vizier
			Paid the Rohillas
			By balance remaini gunbud 1192.
Fyzd 16 fun ficca rupees	—	7,46,831 9 6	
1785.			
January 31st. Balance due to the Shroffs on account of money borrowed from them in June 1783. Lw Sa Rs 13,61,055. 7. 6.			

Lucknow, the 1st of Febru

to the 31st of January 1785, or from the 6th of Maugbud to the 6th of Phaungbud 1192.

Cr

By Fort William Presidency.		
Mr. Wombwell, Paymaster General, as per his receipt of the 31st January, for current rupees 4,55,100	4,10,000	0 0
Mr. J. P. Scott, in part of the Honourable the Governor General's orders in his favour, as per receipt of 28th January	21,000	0 0
Mr. J. Wombwell his salary as Accomptant, for January 1785, Ca Sa R 2,600, or	2,730	0 0
		4,33,730 0 0
Abob Vizier.		
the Rohillas, for Maug	—	5,131 8 0
ce remaining in the treasury the 31st January 1785, or 6th of Phaungbud 1192.	—	3,07,970 1 6
Fyzd fun sicca rupees	—	7,46,831 9 6

of February 1785, or 7th of Phaung Buddie, 1192.

Errors excepted.

J. WOMBWELL,

Accomptant.



The Governor General lays before the Board a translation of a letter which he wrote yesterday to the Nabob Vizier.

COPY of a Letter from the Honourable John Macpherson, Esquire, Governor General, to the Nabob Vizier; written on the 18th February 1785.

On the 8th of this month Mr. Hastings finally resigned his office of Governor General, and the Company's service, and the ship on which he embarked took its departure for England.

I have succeeded to the office of Governor General; and your Highness will find me, in every respect, disposed to support your honour, and your alliance with the Company. It is my utmost wish to make that alliance fortunate to your Highness, your family and people, and useful and honourable to the English.

The expences of the different wars in which the Company were lately engaged, have very much distressed their affairs: I have resolved to reduce the expences of the Company's service in every department, and in every office, from my own to the lowest department of the Company's government.

Unnecessary bodies of troops are to be reduced; and those that are to be kept in pay are to be paid regularly. This was Mr. Hastings's wish also.

The regiment of body guard of the Governor General, which your Highness lent to him, is among the corps to be discharged from the Company's pay and service.

This regiment is, I understand, at present attending upon the royal Prince Mirza Jewan Bucht, &c. &c. Should his Royal Highness wish to keep any of these soldiers about his person, your Highness will, from your politeness and hospitality, give directions accordingly, though the presence of an English officer to command the soldiers in that event is not necessary.

With the reduction of the Company's expences, I anxiously wish to lessen the expences to which your Highness's treasury is put on account of the Company's troops, and that of gratuities to the Company's servants in your dominions, unless I think it for the Company's real service that your Highness should order any such allowance in future, or that you should be pleased to continue any allowances that are now granted. I hope your Highness will not grant any, or continue to order any to be paid, that are not recorded in the Company's accounts.

In case I should be of opinion that your Highness should shew marks of your favour and generosity to the Company's officers and servants, I shall mention the business to the gentlemen in Council; and your Highness's generosity will then appear on the Company's books: for it is fit that the Company should know, in every instance, the allowances of their servants, in their employments at your Highness's court, and in your dominions.

When these matters are fully known and recorded, much expence will be saved to your Highness, and I shall have much less trouble from the applications of the Company's servants who wish to have leave to reside at your court, and in your country. Besides that, the Company will have much satisfaction from an invariable regulation in these matters.

Your Highness may be assured, that every regulation tending to restrain the expences of the Company's government, and of your own, is a regulation to strengthen the friendship that was established between them and your illustrious father, and more strongly with your Highness.

I have given a firm promise to support the regulations which Mr. Hastings settled with your ministers, for the increase of your revenues, and the settlement of them for five years. In every article my promise shall be faithfully performed. I trust the utmost attention is exerted to check the attempts of disorderly neighbours to plunder or disturb your subjects.

Let me hear frequently of your health, and write to me as you would to a brother.—Major Palmer will present this letter.

## EXTRACT of a Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 22d February 1785.

Par. 24. Major Browne also informs Mr. Hastings, that the Seiks had made incursions into Rohilcund with impunity, and carried off a considerable booty.

Par. 25. In consequence of this event, a detachment has been made of two regiments of sepoys, and four six-pounders, at the requisition of the Nabob Vizier, from the Futtty Ghur station; and Colonel Knudson, who commands it, has been ordered to march towards Annapur. Colonel Sir John Cumming's instructions to Colonel Knudson, and the Commander in chief's opinion on them, are transmitted to you, numbers in this packet.

26. We have been since advised by Colonel Sir John Cumming, under date the 4th instant, that an intimation has been conveyed to him by Major Palmef, of apprehensions entertained by the Vizier and his minister, that a combination had been entered into between Scindia and the Seiks inimical to his Excellency; and that a requisition would arrive the next day for the whole detachment. Colonel Sir John Cumming has acquainted us, that although his intelligence authorized him to believe that Scindia has given encouragement to the Seiks to invade the Vizier's dominions, he is yet not of opinion that any steps will be taken by this chief of an hostile nature. Sir John Cumming attributes the friendly intercourse that had lately taken place between Scindia and certain Sirdars of the Seiks, to a wish on his part of preserving the country which he had lately taken under his protection from being ravaged by these freebooters, and of diverting the Company's attention from the ambitious measures he was then pursuing to the defence of the frontiers against an invasion of the Seiks.

27. In consequence of some suspicions entertained by the Vizier of the fidelity of Almas Ally Cawn, his Excellency had required another regiment of sepoys from the Cawnpore station to reinforce the troops at Lucknow, and Colonel Ironside had issued orders for the brigade under his command to be ready to move, on the earliest notice; but we have lately understood that Almas Ally Cawn has repaired to Lucknow, and that in consequence thereof the march of a regiment to that place has been postponed.

28. The grounds for the suspicions entertained of the fidelity of Almas Ally Cawn appear to have rested on his having withdrawn his family from Lucknow, and his having assembled a considerable force under his command at his cantonments at Koderote, not far from Secundra.

29. From this general aspect of affairs on the Western frontiers, you will readily admit that it is necessary for us to be upon our guard; and while we are pursuing a system of moderation and pacific policy, to be prepared against any hostility or convulsion among the neighbouring native powers: we have no immediate apprehension from Scindia's ambition, nor do we suspect him of an infidelity to his engagements, yet there is so obvious a relation between the powers of the Mogul empire, which he has assumed, and the constitutional claims of the Mogul power over the Vizier and his country, that we think it a necessary policy to be ready to resist them; by adopting this system, we employ the most likely means to prevent the assertion of Mogul claims by the Marattas.

## EXTRACT of the Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 22d February 1785.

Par. 30. The present situation of affairs manifests the propriety of our resolutions in suspending that part of Mr. Hastings's agreement with the Vizier which stipulated for the recall of the Futtty Ghur detachment within the provinces.

31. We are determined to effect every possible reduction in the expences of that detachment, and in those of all the Company's troops in the Vizier's dominions. We are likewise resolved to leave the fullest scope for the successful operation of those arrangements, which the late Governor General settled with the ministers of the Vizier for the increase of his Excellency's revenues. Mr. Macpherson has written a very explicit letter to the Vizier on this subject since Mr. Hastings's departure—it attends you, a number in the packet.

32. Your Honourable Court will readily approve another principal object of that letter; it explains to the Vizier the plan of reform which your government has adopted, and which was resolved upon without the concurrence of your late Governor General; it promises a relief to the Nabob's

Nabob's treasury, by carrying a similar plan of economical regulation through every connection of our service with that of the Vizier, within his Excellency's country; and it expressly stipulates, that his Excellency shall not pay any allowances or gratuity to any of the Company's servants, civil or military, within his dominions, that are not regularly recorded in his public accounts with this Government. This stipulation appears, from the result of late investigations, to be no less requisite for the good of your service in general, than for the relief of the Vizier; and it is our steady determination to enforce and maintain it as far as our best exertions can effect so desirable a purpose.

33. Although we have engaged, in consequence of the agreement concluded by your late Governor General with the Vizier, not to charge his Excellency's account with the expence of the Futtty Ghur detachment from the 1st of January last, till your pleasure shall be known, we trust that the Vizier will make a voluntary offer to provide the necessary funds for the payment of this corps, since the use of it to his Excellency's service must have been established to his conviction by the necessity which produced his requisition of two regiments attached to it to march against the Seiks, and that which was announced as very likely to follow it for the movement of the whole detachment; but we do not mean to avail ourselves of any indirect or compulsive influence to induce the Vizier to make the proposition which we have mentioned.

34. The Accomptant General has transmitted to us, in consequence of our orders on the 13th of last December last, an account exhibiting the differences between the sums monthly charged to the Vizier's debit for the brigade at Cawnpore and regiment at Lucknow, as well as for the Futtty Ghur detachment, and the actual expence of the same, as stated to him in two accounts from the Military Paymaster General, and Accomptant to the Board of Ordnance.

By this statement, which makes no allowance whatever for contingent charges, it appears that the sum charged to his Excellency the Vizier, for the brigade at Cawnpore, is short of the actual expence, in the monthly sum of current rupees 33,760. 12. 4; for the Futtty Ghur detachment, in current rupees 49,287. 11. 8; and for the regiment at Lucknow, in current rupees 984. 3. 10.

36. The Accomptant General's letters and statements go numbers in the packet; and we believe that you will agree with us, that they furnish no argument in support of the proposition made to us for diminishing the subsidy now paid by his Excellency the Vizier for the troops at Cawnpore.

37. The debt owing to the Company by his Excellency at the end of last month is as follows:

Balance due from him, as stated by the Account Current of the Accomptant at Lucknow,  
for the month of January.

Fyzabad, 16 Sun Sicca Rupees	-	-	-	-	-	27,18,964	10	3
Batta, 11 per cent.	-	-	-	-	-	2,99,086	1	9
Current Rupees	-	-	-	-	-	30,18,050	12	0
Add the amounts which the Nabob has been short debited on account of the expence of the Candahar cavalry serving with the Bombay detachment	-	-	-	-	-	1,69,084	9	8
Current Rupees	-	-	-	-	-	31,87,135	5	8

38. This includes the amount of his Excellency the Vizier's donation to the army employed in the Rohilla campaign, or current rupees 11,65,000.

39. You have long since been informed of an agreement concluded by Mr. Bristow, your late Resident at Lucknow, with the House of Gopaul Doss, for a loan of 15 lacks of rupees, payable at the Presidency, with a reduction of one per cent. per mensem in the interest, and four per cent. in the exchange.

40. It was stipulated in this agreement, that the surplus of the receipts at Lucknow, after defraying the disbursements for the troops at Cawnpore and Futtu Ghur, and the charges of the Residency, was to be appropriated to the re-payment of this loan. The Nabob was to be charged with the interest on it. Mr. Bristow's letters of the 3d June, 14th October, and 10th December 1783, state this transaction at large. They are recorded on our proceedings in the Consultations of Nov. 10, Dec. 27, Nov. 25, and Dec. 10, 1783; and we beg leave to refer you to them also for the other entries on our consultations upon this subject.

41. In consequence of a minute delivered by Mr. Hastings, on the 28th of last month, the Accountant at Lucknow has been directed to discharge the loan of Gopaul Doss with the ten lacks of rupees that are to be received from the Vizier in the month of Jeyte (Jeyte commences on the 6th of May, and ends with the third of June) in lieu of remitting the same to this Presidency and Surat; and with such part of the kist of Bhauden (Bhauden commences with the 1st of August, and ends with the 30th) as may be necessary for this purpose.

42. Major Palmer, who was placed by Mr. Hastings as the Governor General's private agent at the court of the Vizier, after the public Residency was withdrawn, remains still at Lucknow. Mr. Macpherson's letters to the Vizier (which are recorded on our Consultations) are transmitted to Major Palmer, who presents them to the Nabob; he will of course transmit the Vizier's letters to the Presidency; but in no other capacity is he employed by this Government: And you will readily believe, that it is from motives of delicacy towards the late Governor General, and his arrangements in the upper provinces, and an unwillingness on our part to adopt any measure, in respect to the restoration of the Residency, that might infringe those arrangements, that we have left Major Palmer in the situation above described at Lucknow.

43. Mr. Macpherson wishes not to avail himself of the privilege of deputing an agent on his own part to the court of the Vizier, though the present engagements with him provide for such a deputation. He wishes to comply not only with the spirit but the letter of any orders that you may be pleased to transmit to us on the subject of the Residency; and he doubts not that those orders will provide sufficiently for the attention that should ever be paid to the recommendation of your Governor General, in favour of those of your servants whom he may think best qualified to officiate as your ministers at foreign or ally durbars. His favourable opinion of the abilities of Mr. Bristow and Mr. Cowper has not been invalidated by the accusations which were preferred against them by Hyder Beg Cawn; yet, situated as affairs are at present (in the Vizier's country) and prejudiced as the Vizier or his minister may still be against these gentlemen, it would not be expedient to appoint either of them to the charge of the Residency, before the period is elapsed within which the Vizier has promised to complete his payments to the Company: This period is September next.

44. We have thought it our duty to give you our sentiments thus candidly and explicitly, on subjects which were formerly agitated with some warmth, and a difference of opinion in our councils, and relative to which you may be desirous of knowing not only our present ideas, but our future intentions.

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*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 1st March, 1785.*

**R**EAD the following Letter from Colonel Sir John Cumming.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, and members of the Supreme Council, in their Secret Department.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have the honour to inform you, that in consequence of his Excellency the Vizier's requisition, I shall march from hence to-morrow with two regiments of sepoys, the ruffulla of cavalry, and the artillery; one regiment will remain here in charge of the magazine and cantonments, until the arrival of Captain Frith, with a battalion of the Nabob's sepoys, when that regiment also will proceed to join the detachment.

I have obtained an order from his Excellency for a dawk to be laid from this place to camp; but in the relaxed state of the police in this part of the country, I think it highly necessary to provide against the danger of a dawk being plundered. Permit me therefore to request, that any  
letter

letter you may have occasion to write me during my absence from this place, may be transmitted to me in duplicate; a precaution I shall observe in writing your Honourable Board.

I am still of opinion, that there is but little foundation for his Excellency's apprehensions for the safety of the country. But I approve of the movement of the troops towards the frontier, as by shewing we are ready to act, it may be a means of inducing Scindia to lay aside his hostile intentions (if he has formed any such) upon his Excellency's dominions, and will also secure the country from the ravages of the Seiks. I purpose returning hither with the troops, as soon as the swelling of the Ganges shall remove every fear for the safety of the country.

I have the honour to be,  
 Futtly Ghur, Honourable Sir, and Sirs,  
 11th February, 1785. Your most obedient humble servant,  
 JOHN CUMMING, Col.

Read the following letter from the Commander in Chief:

To the Honourable John Macpherson, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council, Secret Department.

Gentlemen,

I do myself the honour of enclosing for your information a copy of a letter to me from Colonel Sir John Cumming, advising me of his intention to march the day after the date of that letter, with the detachment under his command, leaving one regiment of sepoys for the protection of the cantonments and magazine, till the arrival of Captain Frith, who was expected there in a short time with a battalion of the Nabob's sepoys.

I have the honour to be,  
 Fort William, Gentlemen,  
 24th February, 1785. Your most obedient humble servant,  
 G. STIBBERT.

The letter enclosed in the foregoing, being only a counterpart of that which Sir John Cumming has addressed to the Board, there is no occasion to record it again in this place.

THE Governor General lays before the Board the following Letter, which he wrote to Major Palmer on the 4th instant.

Dear Sir,

Calcutta, 4th March, 1785.

Yesterday I had the pleasure of receiving your letter of the 21st February, enclosing letters to me from the Nabob Vizier and his ministers. It affords me great satisfaction that the Nabob Vizier and his ministers are pleased with the representations which I made to them respectively, on the occasion of Mr. Hastings's departure and resignation of his office: My subsequent letters to his Highness, and to the ministers, Hyder Beg Cawn and Husein Beg Cawn, which were enclosed to you for presentation, would add to their confidence in the moderation and justice of my administration.

One of the heavy complaints of the Nabob Vizier was, the expence to which his government has been put by the allowances granted in various ways, and under different establishments, to the Company's civil and military servants in his dominions; such allowances, unless they have the express approbation of the Company's administration, and are recorded in the public accounts, are no less a grievance to the Vizier, than injurious to the Company's service, and general interests.

I have resolved, as the letter to the Nabob Vizier, of which a translation was sent, would inform you, to bring all allowances and pensions from the Vizier's treasury, in the face of his account with the Company: my object is not an unpleasant and invidious retrospect (which sel-

dom in any case forwards the public interest) but to keep our accounts with the Vizier correct and just in future; that he may have no cause, public or secret, for not fulfilling his engagements with the Company, and that a correct adjustment may take place in his disbursements for the Company's service, a measure equally salutary to the respective interests of his and our own government, and constituting the best check to future intrigues.

My predecessor was often anxious to draw this line of Adjustment, but he possessed not the Opportunities which now offer for its establishment. The recent contest between the Nabob's Ministers and the servants of the Company at Lucknow have placed the subject of the Vizier's resources, and the manner of their expenditure, in a clear view fully upon record; and independent of the wishes which Mr. Hastings had equally with me, to draw the line of disbursement from the Vizier's treasury to a just and economical precision, present necessity, and the honour of this Government, press irresistibly for the adoption of the measures which I have recommended to the Vizier.

Accounts are now making out of the actual charge to the Company of their troops and servants in the Vizier's country; those charges exceed the subsidy, and yet the Vizier's treasury is without resource.

The apprehensions lately entertained by the Vizier and his ministers, from the design of the Mahrattas, the incursion of the Seiks, and the natural consequences of the establishment of a powerful State on the ruins of the Mogul power, in the neighbourhood of the Vizier, leave us little hopes of being able for a time to recall the Futty Ghur detachment. Our security, and that of the Vizier, rest ultimately on our force, and not in our address in negotiation; and to place that force on a footing to ensure the peace of these and of the Vizier's provinces, it must be regularly paid, and kept in readiness to act.

For this purpose I wish you to explain to the Vizier the absolute necessity of punctuality in his gifts; and while you press that necessity upon his mind, you may assure him, that I do not wish a greater force than what is absolutely necessary for his own protection to remain in his dominions, and that the expence of it should be kept within the most economical bounds: I imagine a complete brigade in constant readiness, and well paid up, will be equal to this service, with a few regiments of sepoys to be kept for the detail of internal service. The brigade should be kept invariably together, and the bazar of it should be left not in the hands of the Vizier's servants, but under the controul of the commander of our troops. This would relieve the Vizier from a heavy expence, which he now pays in lieu of that controul, and the interests of the different officers, European and native, in the brigade, will effectually prevent any unjust exercise of the controul of the commanding officer of the brigade over the bazar.

I throw out this idea merely as a speculative one at present; I wish to have no reserve in subjects of this nature.

Of the debt of our Government, current, bonded, and arrears, you have probably no correct idea relative to its magnitude; and that of the demands of the Presidencies you can have no adequate conception. The regulations of the late act of Parliament (of which I send you a copy) are wisely restrictive against extension of dominion in India. It follows, then, that it is only from the field in our possession, and our influence over that which we protect, that we can realize the funds that are necessary for our present existence, and against future events. My colleagues have heartily united with me in the reduction of every possible expence; and they agree with me fully in opinion, that every aid that can be drawn from the resources of Oude, consistently with the faith of our engagements, and the permanent good of the country itself, will scarcely be sufficient, united with the utmost reduction of our expences, and the most successful collection of the revenues of these provinces, to maintain our force and our credit, or to substantiate the engagements which the Court of Directors have in a manner pledged to Parliament for the independence of the Company.

I leave the object to your general consideration, as the best comment upon my letter to the Vizier, and the measures which ought to be adopted upon a general system throughout the Company's provinces, and those of their protected allies. Mr. Hastings united with us heartily in the general system of retrenchments before his departure. We are now carrying resolutions, adopted in council with him, into practical effect; and it will be necessary to inform the Company's servants at Lucknow, that they are not to remain excluded from the effects of a general system of economy and retrenchment—what they receive from the Vizier is in fact received from the Company, while he is so much in arrears to them.

Mr.

Mr. Wombwell will be directed to lay before the Board, bona fide, all the allowances that are paid to the Company's servants, of whatever description, within the Vizier's dominions, from the Vizier's treasury, or from the Company's paymasters.—Your own allowances, as the late Governor General's agent at Lucknow, should be mentioned with the rest.—The Vizier, I suppose, finds you a house and servants. These particulars I would not mention but on the principle that, when real reforms are undertaken, they should begin with the conductors of these reforms. You will understand that I have shewn the example in my own family; yet I claim not any comparative merit in this measure.—My predecessors had not the opportunity that was offered to me, nor was the public distress ever so pressing as in the present moment.—The season of the heavy collections is over.—The demands of Madras and Bombay are most pressing, and our arrears to the army are upwards of 50 lacks. You will inform Captain Polhill, and the officers in the body guard, that I have felt the most painful reluctance in the reduction of the body guard, and the transfer of it to the Vizier, without the British officers—but I will not burthen the Vizier with a single officer, if I can help it. The officers of the body guard will find that some of Mr. Hastings's aid-de camps, that lived in my own family, are no longer in that or any establishment of expence to the Company. This must be my excuse to Captain Polhill and the gentlemen of the late regiment.

I shall have the pleasure of writing to you more particularly very soon. You will find, that while you are so good as to remain in your present situation, my correspondence with the Vizier and his ministers shall pass exclusively through your hands. Mr. Stuart and Mr. Stables have perused your letters to me, and I communicate to them my correspondence with you.

They are much pleased with the hopes you have given me, that we have little to apprehend from the Seiks.

I had, in consequence of the hint I gave you about Major Browne, and the fixed determination of the Board to reduce every possible expence, given Major Browne leave to return to the presidency, before I had the pleasure of your last letter. If you correspond regularly with Mr. James Anderson, he will give you every necessary light for the Vizier's information.

I hope the Prince is well—Scindia will not hear of his return with any of our troops for his protection at his father's court—I imagine the Prince will not go without such a protection: If he wishes to live at Benares or Lucknow in a private capacity (as the sons of our Sovereign live among their fellow subjects) humanity as well as policy requires that we should give him such an asylum, since he has thrown himself upon and has been received into our protection.

I shall imagine that in time Scindia will have the address to induce him to return to his father. I beg you to assure the Prince of my respect for him, as the descendant of a most illustrious race of men and of princes. I have a most liberal consideration of his present situation; and my regard for him, from the real good character which Mr. Hastings gave of him, and which many others have confirmed, is perfectly established.

In this letter I have not aimed at either a formal or regular representation in the style of official business. I have given you my thoughts freely, that you may turn them as you can to public use, and the credit of my administration.

I am very sincerely,

Dear Sir,

To Major Palmer,  
Lucknow.

Your faithful and most obedient Servant.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 11th March 1785.*

Read the following letter, and its enclosures, from Major Palmer to the Governor General.

Lucknow, 28th February 1785.

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you letters from the Nabob Mufuffer Jung from Ally Abder Cawn, uncle to the Shah Zoada, and from Almas Ally Cawn. The latter is accompanied by a draft for fifty-one gold mohurs, as a nazeer of congratulation upon your accession to the government.

Nothing

Nothing material has occurred in the transactions of this government since I had the honour to address you last. There is every favourable appearance of tranquillity and plenty.

I am, with great respect,

Dear Sir,

Your faithful and most

obedient humble Servant,

(Signed) WM PALMER.

To the Honourable John Macpherson, Esquire.

Read the following Translates of Letters inclosed in the foregoing.

From Mozuffer Jung, of Ferruckabad, to Mr. Hastings: Received 12th March 1785.

Your letter, agreeable to this purport, that at this time you are going to Europe for necessary affairs; and, that Mr. Macpherson, who remains in your place, will attend to my friendship, and the interests of my concerns, and that I must set my heart at rest, honoured by its arrival, it gave me the highest pleasure. May the Almighty make all your virtues glorious and fortunate to you! which is my only wish. I hope that you will explain, from your favour and kindness, all my concerns to that gentleman; and that, after your return to Europe, in the letters which you may write to that gentleman, you will not forget my sincere attachment, but will write about me in a proper manner, that he also may, after your example, be favourable and kind to me. With respect to the allegiance and obedience which you direct me to preserve for the Nawab Vizier, by the blessing of God, I never was nor can be deficient in my duties to that Nawab, as far as my abilities extend; and in the discharge of the kists to the Nawab, I have to this day paid them regularly: and in future, God willing, I shall also pay them regularly. I am hopeful that, considering me as the firmest of your friends, you will honour me with frequent letters.

From Ackber Ally Khan: Received 11th March 1785.

Although I have not yet been made happy by an interview with you, my heart's attachment and your great favours have made me as happy as if I had touched the hem of your garment.—Your letter to the Prince arrived, and made him acquainted with the particulars of your allegiance and attachment, and convinced his royal mind that you will be at all times as ready in obedience to the royal house of Timur as the Nawab Governor, Amaid ul Dowlah, always was, because from that you will exalt your name in the whole world. A Shucka from the royal presence has been dispatched to you; I am convinced that whatever degree of favour I received from the said Nawab Governor, a greater degree will be experienced from you, and I am hopeful that you will gladden me by answers to my letters.

From Almas Ally Cawn: Received 11th March 1785.

By the arrival of your gracious letter I have been honoured and made grateful, and my heart is set at rest by your favours and kindness. I am from my heart and soul ready in obedience and allegiance to your Excellency, to the Company's exalted government, and to his Highness the Vizier: In my case, can I be ever deficient, knowing my own advantage to depend upon it? Major Palmer has set my heart at rest on your account; and having received complete comfort and consolation, am ready in obedience and attachment to you. The particulars of my desire of obedience to you, which is my chief desire, will be known to you from Major Palmer's letters. I am hopeful, from your favour and protection, that you will honour me with letters of kindness, from which alone I can receive comfort and credit.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 22d March 1785.*

The Secretary lays before the Board the following letter, and its enclosures, from the Accomptant at Lucknow.

To Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary.

Sir,

I request you will lay before the Honourable Board the accompanying treasury, and Nabob Vizier's accounts, for the month of February.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient, humble Servant,

Accomptant's Office,

J. WOMBWELL, Accomptant.

Lucknow, 8th March 1785.

NABOB



NABOB VIZIER in Account with the Honourable Governor General and Council, from the 1st to the 28th

Dr.

To Balance due the 31st Jan'y 1785, or 6th Phauginbud 1192.	-	-	-	27,18,964	10	3	By
							By
To Army Subsidy.							
For one brigade, according to the old establishment	2,60,000	0	0				
For one regiment stationed at Lucknow, according to the new establishment	-	-	-	25,000	0	0	
For five regiments of sepoy's, and one company of artillery, under Colonel Sir John Cumming	-	1,45,000	0	0			
				4,30,000	0	0	
To Mirza Saudit Ally's Stipend.							
For one month at two lacks per annum	-	-	-	16,666	10	8	
To Rohilla Stipends.							
Paid them for Phaugin	-	-	-	5,131	8	0	
To interest on Mr. Frazer's bonds.							
One month on 18,332, the balance due the 31st January	-			122	3	4	
						4,51,920	6 0
Fyzd. 16 Sun Sicca Rupees	-	-	-	-	-	31,70,885	0 3
Balance due on Mr. Frazer's bond the 31st Jan'y.	-	18,332	0	0			
Deduct the proportion of the receipts that the balance due on the bond bears to the whole amount due by the Vizier the 31st of January	-	2,191	0	0			
				16,141	0	0	
Remains due on the bond the 28th Feb'y. 1785.							
Balance due on account the army donation	-	1,00,279	0	0			
Deduct the proportion of the receipts that the balance due on the donation bears to the whole amount due by the Vizier the 31st Jan'y.	-	11,986	0	0			
Remains due on account of the donation, the 28th Feb'y	-			88,293	0	0	

Lucknow, the 1st of  
(E)

to the 28th February 1785, or from the 7th of Phaugunbud to the 4th of Cheytebud 1192.

C.

3	By amount received, as per the Accountant's treasury acct	-	3,25,000	0	0
	By balance due the 28th of February, or 4th of Cheytebud. 1192		28,45,885	0	3
0					
3	Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca Rupees	-	31,70,885	0	3

the 1st of March 1784, or 5th Cheytebud. 1192.

(Errors excepted)

J. WOMBWELL,  
Accountant.

TREASURY ACCOUNT of the Accountant at Lucknow, from the 1st to

Dr

To balance remaining in the treasury the 31st January 1785, or Phaugunbud. 1192	-	-	-	-	3,07,970	1	6	Paid t for
To the Nabob Vizier.								
Received from Hyder Beg Cawn, Kift for Phaugun	-	-	-	-	3,25,000	0	0	Paid M Ca S
								Dn. M Ca S
								Paid t
								By bal 4th
Fyzabad 16 Sn Sa Rupees -					6,32,970	1	6	

1784.

February 28th. Balance due the Shroffs on account of the money borrowed from them in June 1783 Lw Sa Rs 13,61,055. 7. 6.

the 1st to the 28th February 1785, or from the 7th of Phaungunbud, to the 4th Chytebud. 1192.

C

By Fort William Presidency.

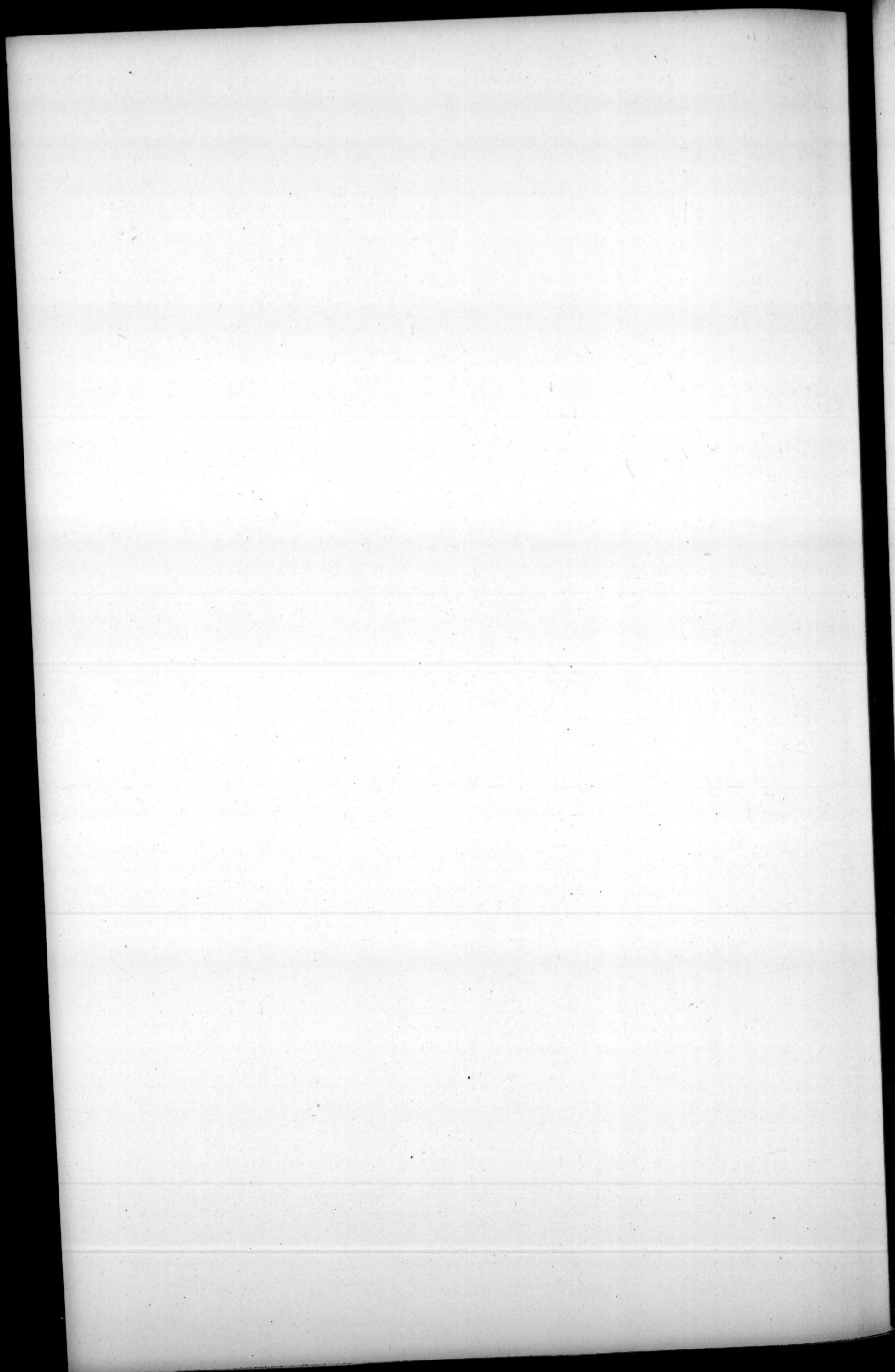
Paid the Paymaster General, as per his receipt of the 28th of February for Ca Rs 3,77,400	- - - - -	3,40,000 0 0	
Paid Mr. Blain his salary, as surgeon, for January, Ca Sa Rs 1,250, or	- - - - - 1,312 8 1		
Dn. Mr. Wombwell, as accountant, for February, Ca Sa Rs 2,600, or	- - - - - 2,730 0 0	4,042 8 0	
			3,44,042 8 0

By the Nabob Vizier.

Paid the Rohillas, for Phaungun	- - - - -	- - -	5,131 8 0
By balance remaining in the treasury the 28th of February 1785, or 4th Chytebud. 1192	- - - - -	- - -	2,83,796 1 6
Fyzabad 16 Sn Sa Rupees	- - - - -	- - -	6,32,970 1 6

Lucknow the 1st March, or 5th of Cheytebud. 1192.  
(Errors excepted)

J. WOMBWELL,  
Accountant.



*Secret Conf. 22 March 1785.*

To the Honourable John Macpherson, Esquire, Governor General, and Members of the Supreme Council, in their Secret Department.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

I am honoured by the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant.

The reports you had heard of an incursion made by the Seiks into Rohilcund were not without foundation; they plundered the town of Chandowey, and partly those of Mauriddabad and Sumbul. I knew from my own private intelligence of their approach to the banks of the Ganges, near Anopshire, but all the officers of the Vizier's government maintained the strictest silence on the subject of their approach, as well as of their crossing, and subsequent depredations: I omitted nothing upon this occasion which it was in my power to do. I prepared to take the field at an hour's notice, and impatiently waited a requisition from his Excellency the Vizier for the march of a part, or the whole of the detachment. The requisition being delayed beyond my expectation, I ordered Lieutenant Colonel Knudson, with 2 regiments and 4 guns, to be in readiness for immediate service, and I represented in strong terms the urgent necessity of their marching: They remained in this situation about 10 days: at last I received the requisition, and next morning the detachment marched. Shortly afterwards, for the reasons mentioned in my letter to your Honourable Board, under date the 4th instant, the Vizier sent me a requisition for the march of the whole detachment: It accordingly marched immediately, except the 18th regiment; that regiment I had ordered to follow me upon the arrival of his Excellency the Vizier's battalions, but the latter proved such an undisciplined Rabble, that I could not entrust them with the protection of the magazine, hospital, cantonments, and all the property of the officers, besides the city of Furrockabad; this consideration, joined to my conviction that the force now with me is more than equal to any thing that can be brought to oppose me, has induced me to countermand the march of the 18th regiment from Futtu Ghur.

It must appear strange to your Honourable Board, that I have transmitted you no account of the late incursion of the Seiks. I have more than once sat down with an intention of addressing you on the subject, but found myself under such difficulty in what manner to treat it; for, as I have mentioned above, I received no information from the Vizier's officers; all I had was derived from my own Hircarrahs. By my instructions from your Honourable Board, I am placed entirely under his Excellency's orders; without a requisition under his seal, I cannot march a company: In one instance (a most necessary one) I deviated from this rule, by marching a single company which drew a severe attack upon me in a representation to your Board. It rested solely with his Excellency to command the services of my detachment towards the protection of the upper part of the province of Rohilcund; and in giving my opinion unasked, that the troops ought to march, I went further than I was well warranted to do by the situation in which I am placed—bound to execute, but not entitled to advice. The respect due to his Excellency made it improper for me to make any observations, as far as concerned him: and not doubting but that either he or the minister would take occasion to explain this business to your Honourable Board, I wished to leave it to them, and should have continued silent but for your letter on the subject.

Before I quit this subject, permit me to remark, that while the motions of the troops depend entirely on orders from Lucknow, these orders will generally arrive too late. Were a force to approach the frontier that I thought dangerous to the Vizier's government, I certainly would not wait for orders from his Excellency, but, confiding in the candour of the Board, would march without any requisition; but in this case only would I take such a step. The incursions of the Seiks, although very distressing to the country, are not of such a nature as to justify a deviation from the rule laid down in my instructions. If it had, however, depended on me, the troops, or at least part of them, would have been in the field early in December, because the Seiks may be expected, with a great degree of certainty, at the time of the Ganges becomes fordable. If I may venture an opinion with regard to the motive that induced his Excellency to decline calling on me, I think it was a wish to convince your Board, and perhaps the country in general, that his own forces were equal to the defence of the western frontier.—To sum up what I have said, the Vizier and his ministers certainly may be the best judges of the necessity of having recourse to our troops in the case of internal disturbances, but were a foreign enemy is concerned, their resolves are much too slow.

After the plunder of Chandowey, &c. the Seiks, apprehensive of having their retreat intercepted by a detachment of our troops, retired with their booty across the Ganges, nor have they

since re-crossed into Rohilcund. They are now principally in the neighbourhood of Gouz Ghurr, the capital of Golam Kader, the son and successor of the late Nabob Zabdy Khan.

In compliance with a requisition from his Excellency the Vizier, I detached three companies of sepoy, a few days ago, to assist the Nabob of Furruckabad in collecting the revenue of his district, and to enable him thereby to discharge his tribute to the Vizier.

Since my arrival here this morning, I have been joined by Lieutenant Colonel Knudson, and the troops under his command.

I have the Honour to be,  
 Camp, Honourable Sir and Sirs,  
 at Anopshire, Your most obedient  
 February 23d, 1785. (Signed) JOHN CUMMING,  
 Coll.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,  
 Secy.

To the Honourable John Macpherson, Esquire, Governor General, and Members of the Supreme Council, in their Secret Department.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Since I had the honour of replying to your letter of the 6th instant, Rajah Jaggernaut, the Aumil of Rohilcund, has been with me. I interrogated him very particularly, both with regard to the damage done by the Seiks in that country, and the reasons of his not informing me of the probability of their crossing the Ganges. He states the damage to have been much less than the reports your Board had received represented it to be, or than I myself had heard. He affirms to me, that Moraudabad has not been touched, and that the depredations were confined solely to the towns of Chandowey and Sumbul. He acknowledges, that the Bazars of these two places, were pillaged, and burnt, and that a considerable number of bullocks, loaded with plunder found there, had been carried across the river, but not one hackery. On the whole, I found him exceedingly averse to enter into the subject; and, during the conversation, he appeared much embarrassed, from an apprehension, on one hand, of incurring the displeasure of his Excellency, and, on the other, that of your Board. To ascertain, therefore, as nearly as possible, the real damage sustained, I have dispatched people to make enquiries at the several places that are said to have suffered.—I cannot help observing to your Honourable Board, that the whole would seem to have been owing to an unwillingness on the part of his Excellency to apply for the assistance of the company's troops towards the protection of Rohilcund, and an ill-grounded confidence in his own forces. And I think I can venture to assure your Board, that the same motives, if suffered to operate, will hereafter be productive of the same effects.

I mentioned, in two former letters to your Honourable Board, that his Excellency had advised me (through Major Palmer) on his having received information, that a strong connection was formed betwixt Scindia and the Seiks, and that Scindia had incited the Seiks to an invasion of the Vizier's dominions, and engaged to give them support. The circumstance of the Seiks having passed without any acts of depredation along the frontiers, and even through some parts of the districts now under the Mahratta protection, induced me to give great weight to the above information from his Excellency. When I last wrote your Honourable Board I was unacquainted with the channel through which his Excellency derived it; being now apprized of it, the information with me, has lost much of its weight.

Upon my arrival here, a Mahratta Vakeel waited on me, with a letter from Mulhâr Bahao, a person in great trust and confidence with Scindia, and who rents all the districts situated betwixt Delhy and this part of his Excellency the Vizier's dominions. The letter assured me (as did the Vakeel verbally) that the Mahrattas have given orders to all those dependant on their Government to afford every possible assistance in point of supplies to our troops, whether encamped on their frontiers, or passing through any part of their districts, which, on this side of the river, are in many

many places much blended with those of the Vizier. Understanding that the march of the troops from Futtý Ghur has alarmed Scindia, and the Mahratta government, I have judged it necessary, both in my letters to Mulhár Baboo, and in my conversation with his Vakeel, to give the strongest assurances of the friendship and attachment of our government towards the Mahrattas. I have begged him to inform Scindia, that the sole object of the march of this detachment was the defence of the Vizier's frontiers from the incursions of the Seiks. And I have added, that should the Seiks come down in such force that the Mahratta troops on this frontier should be unable to repel them, I am ready to assist them against the Seiks, as a proof of the friendship of our government towards the Pateal.

The morning I arrived here I received a letter from Major Palmer, written by order of his Excellency, acquainting me, that the Seiks having retreated, my continuance in this quarter, with the troops that marched with me from Futtý Ghur, would be no longer necessary; and enclosing a requisition from his Excellency for my return to Futtý Ghur, leaving Lieutenant Colonel Knudson, with two regiments of sepoys. I am so fully convinced of the bad consequences that would result from this measure, that I have represented to his Excellency, in the strongest terms, through Major Palmer, the necessity of my continuing here, at least till the 1st of April, when the river will begin to rise; and that it will be highly proper that Lieutenant Colonel Knudson, with two regiments of sepoys, should remain on this frontier till the 25th of April. Among other reasons, I urged, that the Seiks, who plundered Rohilcund, are now encamped near Gouz Ghur, at the distance of 35 cofs from hence; and that the Rubby harvest, upon which the collections chiefly depended, will very soon commence; that there is a frontier to defend extending upwards of 140 miles; and that two regiments of sepoys cannot afford to send our detachments to any considerable distance; that the immediate return of the troops would not only greatly alarm all the inhabitants of the frontier, but stamp an impression of fluctuation in his Excellency's councils upon all the neighbouring powers. I have, however, requested Major Palmer to inform his Excellency, that if, notwithstanding what I have urged, he should repeat the requisition, I shall think it my duty, in obedience thereto, to return to Futtý Ghur.

I have the Honour to be, with the highest Respect,

Camp

at Anopshire,

February 27th 1785.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Your most obedient and

most humble Servant,

(Signed) JOHN CUMMING,

Colonel.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,

Secretary.

#### EXTRACT of the Secret Letter from Bengal; dated the 25th of March 1785.

Par 2. We were informed by Colonel Sir John Cumming, under date the 11th ultimo, that in consequence of a requisition from his Excellency the Vizier, the probability of which has been already mentioned to your Honourable Court, he should march from Futtý Ghur the next morning with two regiments of sepoys, the Ruffollah of cavalry, and the artillery, leaving one regiment at that station in charge of the cantonments and magazine, until the arrival of a battalion of the Nabob's native troops, when that regiment also would proceed to join the detachment.

3. The Colonel was still of opinion that there was but little ground for his Excellency's apprehensions with respect to the safety of his country, but he approved of the movement of the troops towards the frontier, as, by shewing that we were ready to act, it might be a means of inducing Scindia to lay aside his hostile intentions (if he should have formed any) upon the Vizier's dominions, and it would also secure the country from the ravages of the Seiks.

4. The detachment of your troops under Sir John Cumming arrived at Anopsheer on the 23d ultimo.

5. The letters which we have received from that officer, bearing date the 23d and 27th February, and transmitted numbers in the packet, will lay before you the several circumstances that have come to his knowledge, in respect to the invasion of the Seiks. The last letter will inform

inform you that the injuries done by these people in the province of Rohilcund are by no means of so serious a nature as was imagined; and it offers reason to believe that the Vizier's furnishes of Scindia's connection with the Seiks for an invasion of his dominions, were founded more on conjecture than on positive authority. We are led to this remark from the following extract of Sir John Cumming's address to us of the 27th February:—"Upon my arrival here, [that is " at Anopsheer] a Mahratta Vakeel waited on me with a letter from Mulhâr Baboo, a person " in great trust and confidence with Scindia, and who rents all the districts situated between " Delhi and this part of his Excellency the Vizier's dominions. This letter assures me (as did the " Vackeel verbally) that the Mahrattas have given orders to all those dependent on their " government, to afford every possible assistance, in point of supplies to our troops, whether " encamped on their frontiers, or passing through every part of their districts, which, on this side " of the river, are in many places much blended with those of the Vizier.

6. Colonel Sir John Cumming adds, that understanding that the march of the troops from Futtý Ghur had alarmed Scindia and the Maratta government, he had judged it necessary, in his letter to Mulhar Baboo, and in conversation with the Vackeel, to give the strongest assurances of the friendship and attachment of our government towards the Marattas: Sir John Cumming had also desired him to inform Mahajee Scindia, that the sole object of the march of your detachment was the defence of the Vizier's frontiers from the incursions of the Seiks; and should the Seiks come down in such force that the Maratta troops on the frontier should be unable to repel them, that he was ready to assist them against the Seiks, as a proof of the friendship of the English government toward the Pateel.

7. We are advised by the Colonel, that on the morning of his arrival at Anopsheer, he received a letter from Major Palmer, written by order of the Vizier, acquainting him that the Seiks having retreated, his continuance in that quarter, with the troops that marched with him from Futtý Ghur, would be no longer necessary, and enclosing a requisition from his Excellency for his return to Futtý Ghur, leaving Lieutenant Colonel Knudson with two regiments of sepoy. The Colonel observes, that he was so fully convinced of the bad consequences that would result from this measure, that he had represented to his Excellency, in the strongest terms, the necessity of continuing at Anopsheer, at least until the 1st of April, when the river would begin to rise; and that it would be highly proper that Lieutenant Colonel Knudson, with two regiments of sepoy, should remain on the frontier until the 25th of that month. Sir John Cumming appears to have urged, among other reasons for this advice, that the Seiks who plundered Rohilcund were then encamped near Gouzghur, at the distance of 35 coss from Anopsheer; and that the rubby harvest, upon which the collections chiefly depended, would very soon commence; that there was a frontier to defend extending upwards of 140 miles; and that two regiments of sepoy could not afford to send out detachments to any considerable distance; and that the immediate return of the troops would not only greatly alarm all the inhabitants of the frontier, but stamp an impression of fluctuation in his Excellency's councils upon all the neighbouring powers. Colonel Sir John Cumming has however requested Major Palmer to inform his Excellency, that if, notwithstanding what he has urged, the requisition should be repeated, he should think it his duty, in obedience thereto, to return to Futtý Ghur.

8. In a late letter which your Governor General has received from Major Palmer, bearing date the 13th ultimo, that gentleman writes as follows:

" The late predatory invasion of the Seiks has been more discreditable than injurious to the " Vizier's government. There has certainly been neglect in the Aumil of Rohilcund, as the Vi- " zier pays for a force in that country more than adequate to its protection against such a despi- " cable banditti as the Seiks; and the ghauts should have been properly guarded as soon as the " river became fordable. The depredations made by these freebooters fall upon individuals, " and can in no shape affect the public revenues.—They retreated across the Ganges on the first " appearance of the Vizier's troops; and, although they are now assembled to the number (as is " reported) of 20,000, on the western shore of the Ganges, I have not the least apprehension of " their making another attempt to penetrate into the Vizier's dominions, as Sir John Cumming " detached two regiments on the second instant to Anoopshire, and was to follow with his whole " force on the 12th."

Repeated and uniform accounts have been received through the public news-papers, and private intelligence, of encouragement given to this attack upon the Vizier's possessions by Mahajee Scindia, and of his having engaged to support it by a Mahratta force. I did not give implicit credit to these reports, but the possibility of their being true was sufficient cause for not neglecting " them

them; I therefore recommended to the Vizier to require the actual march of the Fatty Ghur detachment, and the preparation for it of the brigade at Cawnpore. The latter is now suspended as unnecessary, since Sir John Cumming is in the field, and Scindia has solemnly disavowed to Mr. Anderson having excited the Seiks to ravage the Vizier's country.

9. One of the last letters which your Governor General has received from Major Palmer is dated the 24th ulto, and contains the following paragraph: "The Seiks have entirely evacuated the frontier of the Vizier's dominions, and every thing within them is in a state of tranquillity, without the least appearance of further disturbance or obstruction in the collections."

18. We are advised that the minister and Almas Ally Cawn continue on terms of cordiality and confidence, and that there is not the smallest apprehension that this good understanding will be interrupted, since so much encouragement has been given to both to rely on our protection and support, whilst they discharge their respective duties for the advantage of the two governments; and, as they know how essentially their own honour and interests depend upon their zeal and fidelity, there can be no doubt of their best exertions.

19. A letter was written by your Governor General to Major Palmer on the 4th instant, and is recorded on our proceedings of the 8th. This letter was in explanation of the sentiments of the Board, conveyed by the Governor General to the Vizier, in his letter of the 4th of March. The Vizier's answer has been received to it, and his Excellency has expressed his satisfaction at the resolutions of your government, that all allowances, pensions, or gratuities, of whatever nature, paid out of his treasury to your civil or military servants, should be recorded in his public accounts, and that our retrenchments should be extended to every branch of his Excellency's service that was conducted by them. The Vizier has promised to furnish a particular statement of the allowances paid out of his treasury to those gentlemen, and it will be forwarded in course to your Honourable Court. We think it proper to transmit the Governor General's letter on this interesting subject, as well as the Vizier's answer, No. 1 in the packet.

20. It appears, by the last advices which we have received from your Accomptant at Lucknow, that the balance due on the 1st instant, from his Excellency the Vizier to the Honourable Company was Fyz<sup>d</sup> 16 S<sup>d</sup> Sa R<sup>s</sup> 28,45,885. 0 3.

21. Your Governor General, on laying before us some letters that he had received from the Vizier's ministers, and from Almas Ally Cawn, which enclosed nuzzers, or usual presents of respect to the station which he fills, took this occasion of desiring our sentiments with regard to the receipt of such presents; observing that the question was only of importance to himself, and stood connected with the public credit and interests of government; and, that in every matter which related to that interest in any degree, he wished to consult the opinions of his colleagues. Our ideas upon this subject are separately recorded on our consultations of the 11th and 22d instant.

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*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 5th April, 1785.*

To the Honourable John Macpherfon, Esquire, Governor General, and Council, of Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

In obedience to your orders of yesterday's date, I have now the honour to lay before you the account shewing the amount of his Excellency the Nabob Vizier's debt to the Honourable Company at the end of February 1784, and how far it has been increased or diminished, according to the latest information received from the Accomptant at Lucknow.

I must however observe to the Honourable Board, that upon attempting to form the journal entries required upon the Honourable Company's general books of the year 1782-3, of the transactions which had in that year taken place in the military Paymaster General's department, I perceived that the want of the accounts of the Paymaster to the Bombay detachment, at the time when the last adjustment was made between the Nabob's account current, as stated by the Resident and Accomptant at that station, and the general books of the Presidency, had led me into an error, the actual expence of the Candahar cavalry being considerably more than I had estimated it at, owing to my not being officially advised of the gratuity of CR<sup>s</sup> 79,920, which had been paid to the Candahar chief by the Nabob's desire, and the augmentation of CR<sup>s</sup> 3,154. 7. 4, which, in conformity to the same cause, had been made to the sum monthly to be received by them.

Perceiving this, I thought it incumbent upon me to address the military Paymaster General a public letter upon the subject, on the 17th December 1784, requesting him to furnish me with an accurate and complete account of the sums which should be charged to the Nabob's debit, on account of the expence of his corps. In compliance with this request, he transmitted me, about the middle of last month, an account of the payments made by the Paymaster of the Bombay detachment on this account; but as this did not accord with what I could not but officially know to be the case, I returned this to him, and pointed out the alterations which I conceived should be made in it: This, I understand, the sickness of one of his native assistants, who had charge of this alteration, has hitherto prevented him from doing: Whenever it shall have been completed, it will then become my duty to point out its effects upon the amount of the debt due from his Excellency the Vizier to the Honourable Company; this will however not occasion any alteration in the accompanying, as it will equal what then was, and what now is, stated to be due from his Excellency on 29th February 1784, and 31st December 1784. It was however a matter on which I could not but remark to the Honourable Board, in an address which particularly concerned the subject to which it related.

I have the honour to be,

with the greatest respect,

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Your most obedient

humble Servant,

W LARKINS,

Accomptant General.

Fort William,  
Accomptant General's Office,  
the 16th February 1785.

Compd.

J. Cheap.

An ACCOUNT shewing the Amount of his Excellency the Nabob Vizier's Debt to the Honourable Company, at the End of February 1784, and how far it has been increased or diminished, according to the latest information received from the Accountant at Lucknow,

Amount due from his Excellency on the 29th Feby 1784, or 9 Phaugun Sud. 1191, as stated by the Account<sup>t</sup> at Lucknow, in the Monthly Account Current for the month of Feby 1784. - - - - -

72,18,657 5 5

Deduct, the amount brought to the Nabob's credit in the Acc<sup>t</sup> Curr<sup>t</sup> for August 1784, for half of the original cost of 524 horses (then) lately belonging to the 1st regiment of cavalry, detached on the service to the West of India, at St R<sup>s</sup> per horse 250 - - - - -

1,31,000 0 0

Corrected balance due from the Nabob Vizier, as it would have stood on the 29th Feby 1784, if the number of the horse alluded to in the preceding deduction had been officially ascertained when the adjustment of those acc<sup>t</sup> was made

70,87,657 5 5

Add, the monthly demand growing due from his Excellency the Vizier from the 29th Feby 1784, to 1st Jan'y 1785.

March	- - - - -	4,56,279	9	0
April	- - - - -	5,51,718	14	10
May	- - - - -	5,10,847	6	8
June	- - - - -	4,60,828	1	4
July	- - - - -	4,60,787	15	6
August	- - - - -	4,60,787	15	6
September	- - - - -	7,13,110	6	3
October	- - - - -	4,43,812	12	5
November	- - - - -	4,52,105	1	11
December	- - - - -	4,52,068	6	8

49,62,346 10 1

1,20,50,003 15 6

Deduct the monthly receipts from the Nabob, in cash and bills.

March	- - - - -	4,89,347	10	6
April	- - - - -	28,72,894	2	2
May	- - - - -	1,31,370	1	3
June	- - - - -	3,02,057	3	0
August	- - - - -	23,48,308	2	7
September	- - - - -	3,14,000	0	0
October	- - - - -	5,00,000	0	0
November	- - - - -	5,00,000	0	0
December	- - - - -	20,00,000	0	0

94,57,977 3 6

Remains the amount due from his Excellency the Nabob Vizier on the 31st December 1784, as stated by the Accountant at Lucknow - - - - -

25,92,026 12 0

Which, deducted from the sums due from the Nabob Vizier on the 29th Feby 1784, the remainder is the diminution that has taken place in his debt, of — Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca Rupees

- - - 44,95,630 9 5

Errors excepted,

WM. LARKINS,

Acct General.

Fort William,  
Account General's Office,  
16 Feby 1785.

Exd.

J. Cheap,  
Head Afft.

To

To the Honourable John Macpherson, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Council of Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

In a letter, which I had the honour to address to the Honourable Board on the 16th instant, I adverted to the occasion of my present address, which is meant merely to lay before them the accompanying.

No. 1. An account of the sums which composed the amount that was, to the end of February 1784, carried to the Nabob Vizier's debit, as the actual and estimated expence of the Candahar cavalry, while serving in the Bombay detachment.

No. 2. An account of the sums which are stated to have been disbursed by the Paymaster to the Bombay detachment, on account of the Candahar cavalry.

No. 3. A comparative statement of what has and what would have been carried to the Nabob Vizier's debit for the expence of the Candahar cavalry, had the account of the Paymaster to the Bombay detachment been in the Military Paymaster's possession when the estimate of the Nabob's debit to the Honourable Company, on the 31st of January 1784, was formed.

Should it be the Board's determination, that the difference exhibited in the preceding account should be carried to the Nabob Vizier's debit, it will be necessary for them to direct copies of the accounts which accompanies this address, and of that part of my letter of the 16th instant, which is explanatory of this, to be transmitted to the Accountant at Lucknow, that the Nabob may be made acquainted as well of the cause as of the effect of this oversight.

But as the Military Paymaster General has deemed it necessary to qualify the dependance that is to be placed upon the competency of No. 2, as will be seen by the accompanying copy of his addressed to me upon this subject, it might be deemed prudent to suggest the possibility, if not the probability, of more being yet to be charged to the Nabob's account, for the disbursements made to this corps.

Fort William,  
Accountant Genl's Office,  
the 21st Feby 1785.

I have the honour to be,

With the greatest respect,

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Your most obedient

Humble Servant,

WM. LARKINS,

Account General.

Compd.

J. Cheap.

Ordered, That the accounts, &c. transmitted with the Accountant General's letter of the 21st February, be entered after the consultation.

Resolved, That the deficiency be carried to the debit of the Nabob Vizier, between the sum that was, and that which should have been, so carried for the expence of the Candahar cavalry while serving with the Bombay detachment, had the account of the Paymaster to that detachment been in the Paymaster General's possession when the estimate of the Nabob's debt to the Company, on the 31st of January 1784, was formed.

Ordered, That the Accountant General be informed, and the Accountant at Lucknow directed accordingly, and that copies of the accounts transmitted with the Accountant General's letter of the 21st of February, and an extract of his letter of the 16th of the same month, be sent to Mr. Wombwell, that the Nabob may be made acquainted as well with the cause as the effect of this oversight.

Ordered also, That Mr. Wombwell be informed, agreeable to Mr. Larkins's recommendation, of the possibility, if not the probability, of more being yet to be charged to the Nabob's account for the disbursements made to the Candahar corps.

An

An ACCOUNT of the sums which composed the amount that was, to the end of February 1784, carried to the Nabob Vizier's debit, as the actual and estimated expence of the Candahar Cavalry, while serving with the Bombay detachment.

2d. The expence of the Candahar cavalry from the 30th April 1778 to the 1st Octr 1781, as per the following account thereof received from the Milly Paym. Genl.—Amount balance of the monthly subsistence to the Candahar Cavalry, for April, May, June, and July, paid to Mr. Matthew Leslie, by order of Colonel Goddard - - - CRs	17,437	12	—	
Amount paid ditto, on account for August Do, by order of Col <sup>l</sup> Goddard, Lucknow rupees 23,000 - - -	24,181	2	3	
Amount paid by Mr. Wm Cator to Col <sup>l</sup> Leslie, for the pay to the Candahar Cavalry, as per his receipts. -	79,286	9	—	
Amount paid for do. Sept <sup>r</sup> , by order of Col <sup>l</sup> Goddard - - -	24,181	2	3	
Ditto ditto for October - - -	24,181	2	3	
Ditto ditto for November - - -	24,181	2	3	
Ditto ditto for December - - -	24,181	2	3	
Ditto ditto for January 1779 - - -	24,181	2	3	
Ditto ditto for February - - -	24,181	2	3	
Ditto ditto for March - - -	24,181	2	3	
Amount paid by Mr. Boyd, Surgeon, for his allowance on the corps - - -	4,731	1	4	
Ditto ditto - - -	1,577	9	5	
Amount paid by order of Col <sup>l</sup> Goddard, for horses killed belonging to the corps - - -	2,628	6	1	
Amount of sundry charges on account of ditto - - -	44	6	5	
				2,99,154 14 3
Amount of monthly subsistence to the Candahar cavalry, from April 1779, by order of Colonel Goddard - - -	26,283	13	7	
Do. — do. for May - - -	26,283	13	7	
Do. — do. for June - - -	26,283	13	7	
Do. — do. for July - - -	26,283	13	7	
Do. — do. for August - - -	26,283	13	7	
Do. — do. for September - - -	26,283	13	7	
Do. — do. for October - - -	26,283	13	7	
Carried forward -	1,83,986	15	1	2,99,154 14 3

Brought forward - -	- -	- -	2,99,154 14 3
Amount of monthly subsistence to the Candahar cavalry, from April 1779,			
Brought forward - -	- -	1,83,986 15 1	
Do. — do. for November - -	- -	26,283 13 7	
Do. — do. for December - -	- -	26,283 13 7	
Do. — do. for January - -	- -	26,283 13 7	
Do. — do. for February - -	- -	26,283 13 7	
Do. — do. for March - -	- -	26,283 13 7	
Amount paid Mr. Boyd, for his allowance on the corps for April, May, and June 1779 - -	CRs 1,577 9 5		
Do. for July, August, and September - -	1,665 0 0		
Do. for October, November, and December - -	1,665 0 0		
Do. for January and February - -	1,110 0 0		
		6,017 9 5	
Do. for Dooly bearers, for November and December 1779 - -	639 5 10		
Do. for January 1780 - -	319 10 10		
Do. for February - -	319 10 10		
Do. for March - -	319 10 10		
		1,598 6 4	
Amount paid by order of General Goddard, for horses killed belonging to the corps, in January 1780 - -		1,839 13 10	
Amount paid to Captain John Cockerell, Quarter-Master General, for erecting sheds, &c. for cantoning the corps -		11,100 0 0	
			3,35,962 0 7
Amount paid monthly subsistence to the Candahar cavalry, for April 1780 -		26,283 13 7	
Do. — for May - -	- -	26,283 13 7	
Do. — for June - -	- -	26,283 13 7	
Do. — for July - -	- -	26,283 13 7	
Do. — for August - -	- -	26,283 13 7	
Do. — for September - -	- -	28,375 1 5	
Do. — for October - -	- -	27,553 10 11	
Do. — for November - -	- -	26,283 13 6	
Do. — for December - -	- -	26,283 13 7	
Do. — for January - -	- -	26,283 13 7	
Do. — for February - -	- -	26,283 13 7	
Do. — for March - -	- -	26,285 13 7	
Carried forward -	-	3,18,767 4 0	6,35,116 14 10

Brought

Brought forward —	6,35,116 14 10		
Amount paid monthly subsistence to the Candahar cavalry, brought forward —	3,18,767 4 0		
Amount paid Mr. Boyd, for Dooly bearers, for the corps, for April 1780 —	426 3 10		
Do. do. for May, St Rs 384			
Amount paid Mr. Boyd, Surgeon, for his allowance, for March, April, and May —	1,500		
St Rup's 1,884, or 2,091	3 10		
Amount of horses dead on service —	3,21,284 11 8 8,673 10 11		
The actual expence of Abdul Rehman Cawn's Ruffallah (between the 30th April 1781 and 1st May 1782) appears, by the account thereof formed by the military Paymaster General, to have amounted to —	3,56,413 4 1	9,65,075 5 5	
And the Nabob's proportion of the loss, by exchange, on the whole expence of that corps, to 1st May 1782, is stated by the military Paymaster General at —	1,30,146 9 8		
The estimated expence of that corps, from 30th April 1782 to 1st May 1783, to which time they were paid up, by Colonel Morgan, as follows: —			
Pay, at CRs 26,283. 13. 7, for 12 months —	3,15,406 3 0		
Estimated loss by exchange on do. —	30,702 10 2		
	3,46,108 13 2	8,32,668 10 11	
		17,97,744 0 4	
Current rupees —	— —	— —	17,97,744 0 4

Fort William,  
Accompt<sup>t</sup> Genl's Office,  
the 23d Feby. 1785.

Errors excepted.  
(Signed)

WM LARKINS,  
Acc<sup>t</sup> Genl.

ACCOUNT

ACCOUNT of Payments made to Abdull Rahman Cawn, for the use of the Candahar Cavalry,  
on Account of his Excellency the Nabob Asoph ul Dowlah; viz.

		Lucknow rupees.	Current rupees.
1778.			
August 31.	By Mr. William Cator, Cash advanced on account of the monthly allowance, for April, May, June, and July 1778	— —	79,286 13 0
Sept. 30.	By Captain William Popham, Cash paid in full of the monthly allowance, for April, May, June, and July 1778, at 23,000 Lucknow, or 24,181. 2. 3 current rupees per month	92,000 0 0	17,437 12 0
1779.			
March 31.	By do. cash paid monthly allowance, from Aug. 1778 to March 1779 inclusive, is 8 months, at 23,000 Lucknow, or 24,181. 2. 3 CRs per month	1,84,000 0 0	1,93,449 2 0
1780.			
May 31.	Lieut. Daniel Watherfon, Cash paid the monthly allowance, from April 1779 to May 1780 inclusive, is 14 months, at 25,000 Lucknow, or 26,283. 13. 7 current rupees per month	3,50,000 0 0	3,67,973 14 2
	By do. cash paid for horses killed on service, at 250 Lucknow rupees per month	10,000 0 0	10,513 9 8
1782.			
February 28.	By Mr. Stephen Bayard, Cash paid the monthly allowance, from June 1780 to February 1782 inclusive, is 21 months at 25,000 Lucknow, or 26,283. 13. 7 current rupees per month	5,25,000 0 0	5,51,960 10 3
	By do. cash paid for the difference ordered by the Board, from Aug. 1780 to Feb. 1782, is 19 months, at 3,000 rupees per month 57,000		
	By do. cash paid a gratuity from the Nabob Vizier to Abdull Rahman Cawn, ordered by the Board 15,000		
	Paid St Rs 72,000	76,016 4 0	79,920 0 0
Dec. 31.	By do. cash paid for horses killed on service, from July 1780 to December 1782 inclusive, at 250 Lucknow rupees each 11,000		
1783.			
April 30.	By do. cash paid for do. from January 1783 to April 1783 inclusive 2,000	13,000 0 0	13,667 9 9
	By do. cash paid the monthly allowance, from March 1782 to April 1783 inclusive, is 14 months, at 28,000 Lucknow, or 29,437. 14. 7 current rupees per month	3,92,000 0 0	4,12,130 12 2
	Total rupees	16,42,016 4 0	17,26,340 3 0
	Surat, 5th May, 1783.		
	This is to certify, that Abdull Rahman Cawn has received, from myself and predeceffors, the above sums, on account of the Candahar cavalry under his command.		
	(Signed) STEPHEN BAYARD, Paymaster Bombay Detachment.		
	N.B. The gratuity and additional allowance, ordered by the Board to Abdull Rahman Cawn and his corps, from Aug. 1780 to Feb. 1782, amounting to 27,000 Lucknow rupees, was paid by mistake in 72,000 Sonaut rupees.		
	Cash over-paid the Candahars, and to be refunded, Lucknow rupees	4,016 4 0	or 4,222 7 0

APPEN.

## APPENDIX to the Consultation the 5th April 1785.

Brought forward		—	—	17,26,340 3 0
Cash advanced Mr. Geo. Boyd, Surgeon, for his attendance on the Candahar corps, viz.				
1779.	By Captain Popham, Acts Paymaster,			
Cash paid monthly allowance for January, February, and March, at 500 Lucknow rupees per Mo, is CRs		1,577	9 5	
By Lieut D. Wetherston, Acting Paymaster,				
Cash paid monthly allowance for April, May, and June, at 500 Sa Rs per Mo		1,577	9 5	
Do. do. monthly allowance from July 1779 to May 1780 inclusive, as 11 months, at 500 Sa Rs, per month				5,500 0 0
Do. for doolies for Decr 1779				288 0 0
1780.	Do. do. for Jan'y 1780			288 0 0
	Do. do. for Feb'y			288 0 0
	Do. do. for March			288 0 0
	Do. do. for April			384 0 0
	Do. do. for May			384 0 0
				1,920 0 0
				7,420 0 0
Batta 11 per Ct				816 3 2
				8,236 3 2
By Mr. Stephen Bayard, Paymaster,				
Cash paid monthly allowance from June to April 1783, is 35 mths, at 500 Sa Rs per				17,500 0 0
Do. for doolies for June, Octr, Novr, and Decemr 1780				1,104 0 0
1781.	Do. for do. from Jan'y to May inclusive			1,440 0 0
	Do. do. for Novr and Decemr 1780			576 0 0
1782.	Do. do. from Jan'y to May inclusive			1,440 0 0
	Do. do. for Feb'y and March			576 0 0
				22,636 0 0
Batta 11 per Ct				2,489 15 4
				25,185 15 4
				36,517 5 4
Current rupees		—	—	17,26,857 8 4

(Signed) E. E.  
per STEPHEN BAYARD,  
Paymaster Bombay  
Detachmt.

Surat,  
5th May 1783.

True Copies.  
(Signed) J. Cheap,  
Acting Sub-Accompt.

## APPENDIX to Consultation the 5th April 1785.

Brought over, amount of Mr. Bayard's account	-	-	17,62,857	8	4
Add.					
Sundry sums omitted by Mr. Bayard on the above account ; viz.	-	-			
Amount paid to Captain Cockerell for erecting the sheds, &c. for the Candahars in September 1779	-	-	11,100	0	0
Do. paid in January 1779 to Mr. Boyd, surgeon, for his allow- ance on the corps from 1st April to 31st December 1779, 9 months, at 500 St Rs	-	-	4,500	0	0
Do. paid by order of General Goddard on April 1779 for horses killed on service from 1st April 1778 to 1st April 79	-	-	2,628	6	1
Do. sundry charges on Do.	-	-	44	6	5
Do. Mr. Boyd, surgeon's allowance for doolies for Nov. 1779	-	-	319	10	10
					18,823 8 8
					17,81,681 1 0
Add.					
Loss by exchange on CRs 17,16,681. 1, at 96 Surat Rupees per 8 Siccas	-	-	-	-	1,85,147 9 1
Current Ruprs	-	-	-	-	19,66,828 10 1

Errors excepted.

Military Paym<sup>r</sup> Genl's Office,  
14th Jan<sup>y</sup> 1785.(Signed) CLAUD ALEXANDER,  
Military Paym<sup>r</sup> Genl.A true Copy.  
(Signed)J. Cheap,  
Act<sup>s</sup> Sub-Accompt<sup>t</sup>.

## APPENDIX to Consultation the 5th April 1785.

A COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of what has and what would have been carried to the Nabob Vizier's Debit for the Expence of the Candahar Cavalry, had the Accounts of the Paymaster to the Bombay Detachment been in the Military Paymaster General's Possession when the Estimate of the Nabob's Debt to the Honourable Company, on the 31st January 1784, was formed.

Amount of the disbursements made by the Paymaster of the Bombay detachment on account of the Candahar cavalry -	17,81,681	1	0
Loss by exchange, at 96 Surat Rs per $\frac{1}{2}$ ficas -	1,85,147	9	1
	19,66,828	10	1
Deduct.			
The Nabob has been debited on this account by the Resident in 1187, in August 1780 -	3,12,564	12	0
in 1188, in Sep <sup>r</sup> 1781 -	3,30,000	0	0
in 1189 and 1190, in Sep <sup>r</sup> 1782 and Apl 1783 -	5,46,599	4	0
in 1190, Septem <sup>r</sup> 1783 -	3,25,425	2	5
Deduct,			
Which was on another acct 1,95,000 0 0	1,30,425	3	5
Fyza 16 fun ficas -	16,19,589	3	5
Batta 11 per $\frac{1}{2}$ -	1,78,154	13	0
	17,97,744	0	5
		1,69,084	9 8
Short debited on this account - Current rupees -	-	-	1,69,084 9 8

Fort William,  
Acct Gen<sup>l</sup>'s Office,  
the 23d Feby 1785.

Errors excepted.  
(Signed)

Wm LARKINS,  
Acct Genl.

EXTRACT

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 25th March, 1785.*

Read the following extract of a letter from Major Palmer to the Governor General, dated the 15th instant, and recorded on the proceedings of this day, in the Secret Department of Inspection.

EXTRACT from a Letter from Major William Palmer to the Governor General, dated Lucknow, 15th March, 1785.

The great acquisition of power and authority which Sindia has obtained, both for himself and the Mahratta State, is certainly, in a general view, alarming to the Vizier; but what may be hoped or feared from the particular strength and views of Mahajee Sindia, so long as he may retain his present influence, Mr. Anderson has, no doubt, informed you. He is very particular in his communications to me, and they have had the best effects in quieting the apprehensions of the Vizier and his ministers. I own that his arguments appear to me conclusive of the interest and disposition of Sindia for observing his engagements with us inviolably.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultation, the 29th March, 1785.*

THE Governor General lays before the Board the following letter, which he has received from Major Palmer.

Dear Sir,

Lucknow, 18th March 1785.

The intelligence which I have the honour to enclose to you of the Shah's great discontent at the proceedings of Mahajee Sindia, come to me through private communication upon which I can rely, and I think it too material to be kept an instant from your knowledge, that you may be prepared to answer any applications which his Majesty may make to you, and which he certainly will make, if an open breach with Scindia should ensue.

The news-papers of this day mention, that the Shah is considerably indisposed with a flux and fever, which at his time of life cannot be unattended with danger. If the event should prove unfortunate, it is to be apprehended that Sindia would promote the succession of one of the Shah's younger sons, in prejudice to the eldest, now under the protection of your Government and the Vizier, a circumstance that would probably involve you in difficulties, which cannot be too early guarded against and obviated.

Although I make no doubt of your receiving earlier and more authentic information upon these subjects from Mr. Anderson, yet I cannot dispense with the mention of them, lest any accident should delay or prevent intelligence of so much importance.

I have the honour to be,

with the greatest respect,

Dear Sir,

Your very obedient, and

faithful humble servant,

(Signed)

WM. PALMER.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 9th April, 1785.*

AGREED, That the Governor General be requested to write to the Vizier to obtain his permission, in the present situation of affairs, that a battalion of the Company's sepoy's detached from Cawnpore be stationed at Allahabad.

The

The Governor General is requested to lay some propositions before the Board for regulating the Vizier's native troops, and putting them on a more serviceable footing.

The Governor General lays before the Board the following letters from Major Palmer, and translations of those from the Prince, and Akber Ally Cawn, enclosed in it.

Dear Sir,

Lucknow, 29th March 1785.

I have the honour to transmit to you a letter from the Shah Zada, and one from his uncle, Ally Akber Cawn. I am not acquainted with the contents of these letters, having been simply desired to forward them to you. I believe that they do not contain any subject of business.

The Prince is in good health and spirits, and appears to be happy; the Vizier treats him with the greatest respect, and most unremitting attention. I understand that the agents of Scindia are tampering with him to throw himself upon the generosity and good faith of their principal; but as his Highness has not himself communicated to me the offers made to him, I apprehend that he does not think them deserving of any serious consideration.

You will have been informed by Mr. Anderson of the surrender of Agra to Scindia; the fort of Ally Ghur, on the confines of the Vizier's dominions, and in the possession of the family of the late Amier ul Amrah Afrafiab Cawn, is now the only place of strength which is not brought under the power and authority of Scindia, and this place he will immediately proceed to attack. The widow and other relations of Afrafiab Cawn, residing in the place, have solicited, through Sir John Cumming, an asylum in the dominions of the Vizier, which his Excellency has consented to grant to them; Scindia can have no pretext for being displeased with the Vizier upon this occasion. The family of Afrafiab Cawn are neither the subjects or servants of Scindia, and if they were, he could not complain of a proceeding of which he has set the example in his protection of Cheit Sing against our Government, under the aggravated circumstances of rebellion and massacre. Neither has Scindia been in the least scrupulous in measures which affected the interest or dignity of the Vizier, when they tended to promote his own views. Besides this consideration, I am persuaded that the Vizier is more likely to obtain from Scindia that respect and justice to which he is entitled by the exercise of his rights on all occasions, than by the forbearance of them. These are also the sentiments of Mr. Anderson upon this subject.

Mr. Wombwell has communicated to me your desire, that I should apply to the Vizier in your name for payment in money to Gopaul Doss of the Company's bond, at the period which the Board have directed Mr. Wombwell to pay it. It will be very inconvenient, if not impracticable, for the Vizier to comply with your wish in this point, because he has made a provision for payment of his kist to the Company of the same period, in bills of exchange, and if an alteration in that arrangement could be effected, it would be attended with considerable loss to him, whilst Gopaul Doss can suffer more by taking bills from Mr. Wombwell instead of cash. The house of Gopaul Doss has indeed frequently advanced money upon the exigencies of Government, but in no instance that I am acquainted with without taking unusual advantages for themselves. I have not yet mentioned the subject to the Vizier, as there is yet time for your further consideration of it, after which, if you should still wish that Gopaul Doss should be indulged, I am persuaded that on your account the Vizier will endeavour to effect it.

When I receive your particular opinion respecting the Mootyana troops, I will give you the best information which shall be in my power of the practicability of such an establishment as may afford substantial aid in a foreign war. The troops under this denomination consist of horse and foot; they are not actually raised by or paid by Government, but a specific number of each description is allowed to the respective aumils for the service of their collections, and the expence deducted from their rents. I do not know of any regulations to enforce the obligation of the Aumils to keep up the stipulated numbers, and it may be supposed that they make great advantages of this omission. I am afraid that this abuse has subsisted so long, that it would be difficult to find renters, if it should be corrected, and no equivalent be made for it.

I have the honour to be,  
with the greatest respect,  
Dear Sir,

your most obedient, and  
faithful humble servant,  
(Signed) WM. PALMER.

From the Prince: Received 8th April, 1785.

From the representations of many persons I have learnt the particulars of your wisdom and courage, and of your allegiance and attachment to the presence, and I have received the highest pleasure; and I am convinced that the concerns of the Throne, and the affairs of the Sircar, will be very soon settled in a proper manner by your labours. My mind is become very desirous of an interview with you, and you must therefore represent how the curtain of separation may be removed from between us, and union may take place, that conformably thereto I may shew favour towards you.

From Akber Ally Khan.

Before this, I address'd repeated and long letters to your presence, which you will have received, and to this time I have not been made happy by an answer to them. I am day and night praying for the attainment and increase of union with you. May the Almighty, by preserving you on the cushion of honour; and dignity, and power, according to the wishes of your well-wishers, give happiness to your servants.

A letter, full of the greatest favour, is address'd to you from the presence of his Royal Highness. I hope from your goodness that I may sometimes be made happy by answers to my letters.

The Secretary lays before the Board the following letter, and its enclosures, from the Accountant at Lucknow.

To Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary.

Sir,

I request you will do me the favour of laying before the Honourable the Governor General and Council the enclosed copy of his Excellency the Vizier's answer to my letter, acquainting him with the Honourable Board's orders, respecting the payment of the balance due to the house of Gopaul Dofs Sah.

I have the honour to be,

Lucknow,  
20th March 85.

Sir,  
Your most obedient humble servant

J. WOMBWELL,  
Accountant.

COPY of a Letter from the Vizier to Mr. Wombwell, received for Translation 31st March.

You have informed me that, with respect to the agreement which I had made to give bills upon Calcutta and Surat, in payment of the Company's money—10 lacks to the end of Cheyte, and 15 lacks at the end of Bhaudun 1192 Fussulle—the Council had directed you to receive this money in specie from me, and pay it to Gopaul Dofs Shaw, in discharge of the Company's debt to him. I will, in conformity to my agreement of giving bills upon Calcutta at 91 days, receive bills at that date from the bankers, with whom I have made an agreement, and deliver them to you; and you may either send them to Calcutta, or give them to Gopaul Dofs—it is entirely at your option; but I must receive the bills from my own bankers, and deliver them to you conformably to my agreement.

Ordered, That the Secretary do acquaint the Gomastah of Gopaul Dofs with the substance of the Vizier's letter to Mr. Wombwell, for the purpose of obtaining from him an intimation of his master's wishes, with respect to the further steps that should be taken for the liquidation of the debt owing to him from the Company. He has been already informed of the orders sent to Mr. Wombwell on the subject on which the Vizier's letter has been written.

EXTRACT

*Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 12th April 1785.*

The Governor General lays before the Board the following Letter from Major Palmer.

Lucknow, the 1st April, 1785.

Dear Sir,

I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 20th past.

The Prince and Vizier have been some days hunting at several tofs distance from hence, which has prevented my communicating to the former your commands, in answer to his application for the continuance of the body guard. The corps still attend him from the Vizier, and I am certain that he will acquiesce in your reasons for transferring it from the Company's to the Vizier's service, and be much pleased with your kindness and attention in the offer of a guard from the regiment stationed here.

Since my last, the Prince has sent his uncle Ally Akbar Cawn to communicate to me the proposals made to him by Bow Buxey, in the name of Mahajee Scindia, for his Royal Highness's return to court. These were so advantageous to the Prince, that, if faithfully complied with, they would have rendered him independent of Scindia. This convinced me they were insidious, and I earnestly recommended that the Prince should not trust to promises, however flattering they might appear, but insist upon security for the due performance of them; as without it he would expose his dignity, his succession, and even his life, to the greatest hazard. I have some grounds for believing that Bow Buxey had made considerable progress in this negotiation, and entertained sanguine hopes of success. It was conducted with great secrecy; and I believe that some persons in the confidence of the Prince had been gained to prevail upon him, and upon the Vizier, to accept the offers proposed. Ally Akbar Cawn was one of the last persons to whom the Prince disclosed the real state of the transaction, and he urged the Prince to inform me of it, and to ask my advice. I did not hesitate to declare my sentiments, although a person in the interest of Scindia (as I am told) was sent by the Prince with his uncle. I consider the interests of the Company and the Vizier, in the present state of the Mahratta power, and the sanction which the Shah's authority will give to the exercise of it, as deeply involved in the fate of the Prince. He is the only person of the reigning family not under the absolute controul of the Mahrattas, and whilst he continues under the protection of the Vizier and the Company, their usurpation must be incomplete; but, if he should fall under their power, it will be perpetuated, and the consequences of their being permanently established in the authority of the empire would be truly alarming to the peace of the Vizier's and the Company's dominions. I learn from Major Browne, and with astonishment, that Scindia, in the present imperfect state of his authority and power, has given you a sample of the conduct which may be expected from him whenever these may be firmly established, by having actually prevailed upon the Shah to make a demand upon your Government for his tribute. Such a requisition, in the unqualified manner in which Major Browne has stated it, to me appears little short of open defiance. But from the true aspect of Scindia's affairs, and from the total silence of Mr. Anderson, I am inclined to think that Major Browne has been misinformed, either as to the fact, or to the circumstances which may attend it. Be this as it will, I have privately advised Colonel Ironside and Col. Cumming of it, that they may make early preparation for any event. I observe also, by the news-papers, that Scindia is in treaty for the aid of a body of Seiks. These circumstances, however they may be misrepresented or misunderstood, make it incumbent to be upon our guard in this quarter.

You may rely upon a provision for the subsistence of the Futtty Ghur detachment, so long as it may be necessary to employ it for the defence of the Vizier's dominions; all that is required is what you have already notified your approbation of, viz. the sum to be paid to the Company in the course of the year, shall not exceed the engagement made with the late Governor General. For the next year other resources must be found, if it shall be judged expedient to continue the detachment.

Sir John Cumming is still with his whole detachment at Anoopshire, but his remaining there would be entirely unnecessary, if the incursions of the Seiks alone was to be apprehended. The suspicious appearances in the conduct of Scindia, and the vicinity of the Nabob's frontier to the scene of his operations, give great uneasiness to the Vizier and his acting minister, and make them desirous of obviating any bad designs which Scindia may entertain, by preparing to resist them; and if these appearances should be kept up, it may be expedient to shew a more determined resolution to repel any injury or insult, by marching the Cawnpore troops to the banks of the Jumna.

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It will not only be impracticable to withdraw the Futtý Ghurr detachment, in the event of Scindia's obtaining a firm footing in the Dooab, which is his aim, and which he has nearly accomplished; but it will be also necessary for the Vizier to maintain a respectable body of cavalry to act with the Company's infantry for the protection of his dominions; and his Excellency is so seriously alarmed at the growing power of the Miráttas in his neighbourhood, that I am convinced he will readily adopt any practicable plan for securing himself against the consequences of it. The Mooteyana cavalry may amount to 5 or 6,000, and could be drawn from the collections into the field upon emergency; but I am afraid would be but of little service there. I will take the opinion of Hyder Beg Khan upon the means of supplying such a corps of cavalry as will be required, with the least possible expence to the Vizier. He has been for some days past much indisposed, and confined to his house, but is now recovering, and I hope to see him in two or three days.

The corps under command of Captain Frith is detached upon service, and dispersed. The Vizier has judged it imprudent to reduce them in the present situation of affairs, and in fact he has not been able hitherto to relieve the stations which they occupy; but, as I had the honour to inform you before, this will be done as soon as possible. Captain Frith has great merit, both in his discipline and œconomy of these corps; but he does not wish that any consideration for him should for a moment impede any arrangement which you may judge for the service of either government. You will certainly subject yourself to innumerable solicitations, by consenting to the appointment of a single officer to the Vizier's troops: I will by no means assist in exposing you to such embarrassments. Whenever the Vizier may chuse to make applications of this nature, I shall simply forward them to you, without encouraging the expectation of a compliance; or rather, I shall discourage such applications, so long as I know you think them productive of inconvenience rather than utility to both services.

It will afford great satisfaction and confidence to the ministers, and Ulmafs Ally Cawn, to receive killaats from you, and it will give them additional weight and credit in their station.

I shall be very glad to receive the abstracts which you propose to send me of the proceedings relating to Owde; they will be of material assistance to me.

I have not the least doubt that the conduct of the Vizier and his ministers will obtain your approbation in every point. They have the sincerest desire to promote your views for the honour and prosperity of both governments.

I have the honour to be,

&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

WM PALMER.

The Governor General acquaints the Board, that he intends to have the honour of laying some propositions before them, upon the subject of this letter, at a future period.

The Board approve of Major Palmer's conduct in having sent the advices which he mentions to Colonel Ironside and Colonel Sir John Cumming.

#### *EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 19th April 1785.*

The Governor General lays before the Board the following letter from Major Palmer.

Lucknow, 7th April 1785.

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you two letters from Ulmafs Ally Cawn, in answer to yours. I hope that his assurances of fidelity and attachment to the Company's and Vizier's governments are sincere, and I do not at this time know of any cause to doubt them. The report which was made to me of his family having withdrawn from Lucknow, at the time to which he alludes, was, I believe, groundless.

You are doubtless better able to form a judgment of the real views of Mahajee Scindia, from the various accurate reports which are made to you, than I am; but as I cannot discover, from any lights of which I am in possession, how his interest can be promoted by a rupture with the Company and the Vizier, I do not receive any deep impression from unfavourable appearances.

It is however prudent to be prepared for any event; and, on this consideration, I think it indispensable that you should be immediately informed of the overtures made in all quarters, from several of the leading chiefs of the Seiks, for an alliance with your government and that of the Vizier against the Marattas. There can be little reason to doubt of the sincerity of these advances, as that people are much more exposed to the encroachments of the Marattas than we are, and have formerly experienced them in a very severe degree: You may therefore, I think, rely upon their assistance in any extremity, and obtain it upon easy terms. For the present, it is sufficient to encourage their expectations by general assurances; and a delay, sufficient for ascertaining the real designs of Scindia, will be obtained by demanding formal and specific proposals. In the mean time, I am of opinion that the Seiks will occupy a great portion of Scindia's time and attention, if they are persuaded the English troops will not be brought to support him against their attacks; and it is not improbable, that by this means the necessity of a connection with them may be obviated.

I have the honour to be,

With the greatest Respect,

Dear Sir,

&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

WM PALMER.

The letters from Almas Ally Cawn, mentioned in the first part of the foregoing from Major Palmer, are sent to the Persian translator's office, and will be recorded on the proceedings of the next meeting.

Agreed, That the following letter be written to Major Palmer by the Secretary.

To Major William Palmer, at Lucknow.

Sir,

I am directed to acquaint you that the Governor General has received your letters, bearing date the 29th ultimo, and 1st and 7th instant, and that he has laid the same before the Honourable Board.

The Governor General coincides with you in the opinion which you have expressed, that the interests of the Company and the Vizier, in the present state of the Maratta power, and the sanction which the Shaw's authority will give to the exercise of it, are deeply involved in the fate of the Shaw Jada; and they trust that his Royal Highness will not allow himself to attend to any overtures that may be made to him on the part of the Marattas, however specious and plausible, that may not be considered by this government, and his Excellency the Vizier, as likely to promote his Royal Highness's welfare.

The Governor General assures himself that the Prince is well inclined to act in conformity to the wishes of the Board; and trusts that no arguments will be untried by you, nor any attention to his Royal Highness left unshewn, which can confirm him in such a disposition.

Scindia's support of the Shaw's claim to payment of tribute, conveys some serious doubts of his real intentions towards the Company and the Vizier; and particular instructions have therefore been sent to Mr. Anderson, which he will use as occasion may require. Mr. Anderson has been directed to be early in his communications to you upon all matters that relate to the security of the Vizier's country, that you may inform his Excellency thereof; and the Governor General hopes that the Vizier will conform to any arrangements that Mr. Anderson may suggest, and admit the operation of any orders that he may issue, while he remains in Scindia's camp, to Colonel Ironside and Colonel Sir John Cumming, for the safety of the Nabob's dominions, in any extremity that may require such orders. I have the pleasure to acquaint you, that the Board approve your caution, in advising Colonel Ironside and Colonel Sir John Cumming of Scindia's conduct in respect to the tribute, that they might make early preparation for any event.

The Governor General instructs me to inform you of his desire, that you assure the Nabob Vizier, in the strongest terms, of the determination of this government to support his Excellency's authority and rights against the encroachments of any power whatsoever; and acquaint him, at the same time, that, as every measure should be taken to render abortive the views of Mahajee Scindia

and to meet the possibility of their bearing an hostile tendency to the Vizier's government, the Governor General submits to him the expediency of placing a garrison of the Company's troops, detached from Cawnpore, in the fort of Allahabad, and repairing the place so as to put it into a state of immediate defence; that means should be also taken for drawing together, and preparing for actual service, such native cavalry as are in the pay or dominions of his Excellency, and are not absolutely required for the collection of his Excellency's revenues; and that directions should be immediately given for repairing, and putting into a proper state of defence, all the places he possesses along the western frontier. The Governor General considers it as unfortunate, that a large body of the regular Mogul cavalry, lately discharged by the Vizier, have arrived with their commander in Scindia's camp, and were to be enlisted in his service; and he observes, that if their engagements with Scindia have not actually been concluded, it would be an useful and meritorious service to both governments, to persuade them to return. and, on their doing so, to liquidate any claims that they may have to arrears of pay; and he is pleased to recommend the same through you to the Vizier's particular consideration.

The Governor General approves of the opinion which you have expressed on the overtures said to have been made by the leading chiefs of the Seiks for an alliance with the Company and the Vizier against the Marattas; and would be pleased if the Vizier should encourage their advances, but not meet them, excepting by general assurances, until the real designs of Mahajee Scindia shall have been ascertained to be of an inimical nature.

The Governor General wishes that you would be very watchful of the conduct and negotiations that may be carrying on through any channel between Scindia and the principal chiefs in the Vizier's country, and that your communications to him be frequent and minute upon every subject useful to the information of government at this crisis.

I am further directed to inform you, that various reports exist of extraordinary demands made by Bow Bucksey upon his Excellency the Vizier, but that no attention is paid to such reports, as you have not taken any notice of the supposed matter of them in your correspondence with the Governor General.

The 35th regiment of sepoy, which was to have been disbanded, is not to be reformed until further orders: and the company of Chasseurs is ordered to move from Chunargur to Cawnpore.

In case of public commotion, and in the event of the 3d brigade and Sir John Cumming's detachment being called into service against the Marattas, the Governor General deems it necessary that the Bazaars of the camp should be well supplied under the responsibility of the commanding officer; and wishes, therefore, that the Vizier's cutwals should be withdrawn: You are desired to inform his Excellency accordingly.

I have the honour to be,

Sir, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. HAY, Secy.

Council Chamber, St Dept,

19th April 1785.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 26th April, 1785.*

The Governor General lays before the Board the following letter from Major Palmer.

Lucknow, the 11th April 1785.

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you letters from the Vizier and his acting minister, in explanation of several points upon which Raja Gobind Ram acquaints them you have desired him to communicate your sentiments.

His Excellency and his minister feel very great concern that their conduct, in any instance, should have appeared contrary to your wishes or expectations, with which they are sincerely desirous to comply, on every occasion, to the extent of their abilities. They are persuaded that you will never require from either any measures which you do not conceive to be for the honour and advantage of the Vizier and his government, and they trust that you will give them credit for the same disposition towards you.

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The explanations contained in their letters will, I hope, prove satisfactory to you, and shew that some points have been misunderstood, and others attended with circumstances which rendered it impracticable for the Vizier to act in them as you might wish.

I am convinced that you are too just to give implicit belief to any representations made to you, until informed by enquiry from hence; and you may rely upon it that no information, of which I may be the channel of conveyance, shall intentionally deceive you.

The Vizier and his minister earnestly hope that you will not find it inconvenient to communicate your sentiments directly to themselves upon any transaction which you may think requires explanation, as they are exposed to additional uneasiness from the possibility of imperfect or exaggerated representations of your disapprobation by others.

The Fatty Ghurr detachment has been unquestionably a heavy and unnecessary burthen upon the Vizier, without any prospect of service from it, proportioned to the expence of maintaining it; until this year, that the unexpected progress of the Mahrattas, in the subversion of the Mogul power, has given serious cause of alarm for the safety of the Vizier's dominions; and unfortunately it is at this precise time that the Vizier is least able to support the charge. He stands engaged to the Company for three-fifths of his complete revenue within the year; and, to fulfil his engagement, has submitted to many retrenchments in his public and domestic expences; the remainder of his income will barely suffice for unavoidable disbursements. He is willing to defray the charge of the detachment during the appearances of a necessity for its services, without availing himself of the reference made upon it to the Company: He only requires that its subsistence shall be furnished from the sum for which he is engaged to the Company this year, and stand as a charge against him to be liquidated in the next; and that he shall be totally relieved from the burthen of it as soon as the situation of affairs will safely admit of the protection of his territories being assigned to his own troops.

I imagine that Rajah Gobin Ram must have mistaken your meaning, respecting a failure in the regular discharge of the stated kists to the Company: They have to this time been paid with a degree of punctuality which I believe has been seldom exceeded by any government in its pecuniary engagements.

The Vizier is now desirous, as you will observe, of being entirely released from the stipends which he has granted to the Company's servants, that he may be enabled to make greater exertions for the common interest. These allowances, during my agency here, have been little more than nominal; only one lack of rupees having been advanced upon them. They are a source of great uneasiness and vexation to me, of which neither the Vizier nor his minister participate, as I have never been importunate with them for payment.

I have had the honour to present your letter to the Prince, in answer to his application for the continuance of the body guard. He is very sensible of your desire to do him honour, and to give him weight in the eyes of the natives, by permitting an officer's guard from the Company's troops to attend his person. At present the corps, lately under the command of Lieutenant Polhill, continues to be his guard. But if the Vizier should shew a desire of retaining it about his own person, the Prince will apply for a guard, conformably to your offer.

The Prince is determined to decline any treaty with Scindia for his return to court, unless under the guarantee of your government. Scindia cannot reject the mediation of a common friend, without evincing that his designs are insidious.

I beg leave humbly to offer it as my opinion, that your becoming the guarantee of engagements between the Prince and Scindia would be productive of solid advantages both to the Company's and the Vizier's governments, as you would thereby establish a check upon the proceedings of Scindia, and acquire a title to indulgence in future measures for the benefit of the Company, which may be supposed to require the sanction of the Royal authority.

The renunciation of the tribute, and of all claims upon the Dooab, and every part of the Vizier's dominions, both from the Shah and the Mahrattas, are points of great and immediate importance to the peace and security of the Company's governments, and that of the Vizier. These concessions might probably be obtained, as the price of permitting Scindia to proceed in his views of reducing Ally Ghurr, and possessing himself of the countries in the Dooab Westward of the Vizier's. His being in possession of those countries would be no longer a cause of alarm, when the above-proposed renunciations should leave no possible pretext for giving disturbance.

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I do not see upon what pretence either the Company or the Vizier can obstruct the plans of Scindia, so long as he refrains from hostilities against their actual possessions. I apprehend that, until he offers some direct injury or insult, we should not be justified in any stronger measure than providing against the consequences of his becoming too formidable for a neighbour.

Upon this principle I observe, with great concern, that Colonel Sir John Cumming is taking measures, which cannot but appear to Scindia as decidedly unfriendly. Sir John has encamped with a part of his detachment within a few cofs of Ally Ghurr, and, as I understand, beyond the Vizier's jurisdiction, and has given a meeting to the Kelladar; and although this interview was, I believe, for no other purpose than to offer an asylum in the Vizier's territories to the family of Afrasiab Khan, his Excellency is very uneasy at the effects which he is apprehensive these steps may produce in the mind of Scindia, and has this day written to Sir John, requiring his return to his former post at Anopsheer, which will as effectually cover the Vizier's country as that which he now occupies, and remove all cause of alarm and jealousy from Scindia. I observe too that Mr. Anderson is uneasy at the indications, which the movement of Sir John Cumming gives, of opposition to the plans of Scindia.

Ambajee, on the part of Scindia, has been for some days past negotiating with the Seiks, and as I believe at length sent a plan of alliance for the approbation of Scindia. Mr. Anderson does not think that their conjunction has any object inimicable to the Vizier or to the Company.

Dear Sir,

Your most obedient

and faithful humble Servant,

(Signed)

WM PALMER.

The Governor General lays before the Board translations of the letters from the Vizier and his ministers, which accompanied the foregoing from Major Palmer.

The Governor General observes, that the extraordinary style of these letters, a style to which none of his could have given occasion, induced him to call upon Rajah Gobind Ram, the Vizier's Vakeel, for information of what he had written to his principals, that could give rise to the uncommon style of their letters; and that Rajah Gobind Ram having in consequence furnished him with copies of the letters in question, which he wrote to Lucknow, and giving leave for their being laid before the Board, the Governor General desires to record them after those already mentioned to himself.

From the Vizier.—Received 21st April 1785.

Whatever you said to Raja Gobind Ram upon every point, the said Rajah has fully written it to me. My friend, from the beginning of the friendship between the noble Chief of the Company and the exalted gentlemen of council, and my deceased father and myself, no deficiency ever appeared; and, after the death of my deceased father, I have constantly remained, and still remain, employed from my heart and soul in preserving this friendship more than formerly; and, on the other part of the gentlemen also, the system of intimacy was preserved. In many concerns of the distresses which from various causes had happened, the Governor General, Mr. Hastings, after learning, applied himself to relieve my situation, and settle a plan by which the Company's money would properly be paid by my ministers, and the Company and all the English gentlemen would receive credit.

After his departure, you from your kindness were favourable to my concerns, and preserved the plan and agreement which had been settled between him and myself, and with the greatest friendship you write to me the completest confirmation; and Major Palmer, in obedience to your orders, gave repeated consolation to me and my ministers. I am convinced that the good situation of my concerns will be increased by your favour. Conformably to the agreement to pay the Company's money, which was settled between me and the late Governor General, my ministers have to this time paid the Kists, and no deviation has happened. You may learn this from Mr. Wombwell; and I, considering the discharge of the company's debt to be the most necessary of all affairs, pay it from the receipts of the country, and the loans of the bankers; and I apply myself to nothing but the discharge of the Company's debt, and the preservation of your friendship. You told Rajah Gobind Ram, that to this time the money had not been regularly paid, according to the agreement which had fixed Kists for the Company's money. This order

order astonishes and confounds me; because, from last year to this time, whatever agreement had been made for the payment of the Company's money, my ministers have paid conformably to the kists, and are in future ready to pay, by the blessing of god, according to the engagements of payment; but your favour and countenance is requisite. This order must certainly have been caused solely by the representations of interested persons; and I from this am much afflicted, that, notwithstanding the regular payment of the money according to the kists, you should give such an order, upon the representations of interested persons, otherwise such orders could not have proceeded from your exalted mind; because many days have not elapsed since you in writing gave me confidence in every point, and, whilst the money was regularly paid, you would not give such orders:—At any rate, I hope from your favour the observance of this rule—Never to listen to the representations of interested persons; because in such cases the affairs are disgraced, and the bankers and ministers are dispirited. With respect to the brigade at Futtu Ghur, you say that you had, agreeably to my request, sent orders for it to march to Behur Gurn; but to this time Hyder Beg Khan has not advanced the money for their expences.—My friend, my request, whatever it be, is known to you. In all concerns, there is one word upon which I rely, That, whatever agreement was made between me and Mr. Hastings, and the plan which was settled, you have repeatedly written that you have approved of, and preserved that engagement out of consideration to my distresses. Whatever is promised with respect to the removal of that brigade is well known to you: And you have also written to Major Palmer, who has given me confidence, that you, from your kindness to my relief, do not approve of keeping an increased army in this country; but that now, until the doubts from the west are removed, the Futtu Ghur brigade must remain.

I also, who desire also your satisfaction, approved of his advice; because, as the reduction of my expences, and the relief of my concerns, is your wish, it will be done at a proper opportunity. When your letter for the Futtu Ghur brigade to remain a little time longer here, was received by Major Palmer, and the Major, agreeably to your orders, told me, that this year, besides one crore and 5 lacks of rupees, which had been engaged for the payment of the Company's money, no more would be demanded, I was entirely set at ease by your kindness: You now order that I should make advances for the expences of the brigade. My situation is not hidden from you: Why should I for ever trouble you, that this year I pay, from the receipts of the country and the loans of the bankers, for the discharge of the Company's money which has been engaged? Do you yourself order, from your favour and kindness, whatever may be advisable towards the relief of my concerns. The affairs of my country and property, and of the Company's government, through friendship are the same: Such matters depend upon your kindness. You will learn full particulars from the letters of Major Palmer.—With respect to the expences of the gentlemen who are here, I have before written in a covered manner. I now write plainly, that I have no ability to give money to the gentlemen, because I am indebted many lacks of rupees to the bankers, for the payment of the Company's debt. At the time of Mr. Hastings's departure, I represented to him that I had no resources for the expences of the gentlemen. Mr. Hastings having ascertained my distressed situation, told me, that after his arrival in Calcutta he would consult with the council, and remove from hence the expences of the gentlemen, and recall every person except the gentlemen in office here. At this time, that all the concerns are dependent upon you, and you have in every point given ease to my mind, according to Mr. Hastings's agreement, I hope that the expences of the gentlemen may be removed from me, and that you may recall every person residing here beyond the gentlemen in office. Although Major Palmer does not at this time demand any thing for the gentlemen, and I have no ability to give them any thing, yet the custom of the English gentlemen is, when they remain here, they will in the end ask for something: This is best, that they should be recalled. Mr. Hastings wrote to me for the abolition of Captain Frith's battalion: At that time the disturbances of the Seiks existed in the neighbourhood of Berelly, and my army was stationed at the gauts of the river, at those places which at this season are always fordable. This year many other gauts were fordable; and the Seiks crossed over to plunder, which is their custom. My army, which was already there, came upon them, and punished them; and they, finding no strength to remain, crossed back again, and returned; but it became necessary to guard all gauts, and I therefore stationed, for the defence of the Berelly gauts, my old battalions, which were fixed at Kherrabad and other mahls; and I sent the battalions of Captain Frith, which were newly raised, for the settlement of the mahls of Kherrabad, &c. These battalions went under the command of a commandant belonging to me, and no English gentlemen went there. In these four battalions, according to the rule of all my battalions, there are three thousand men: and the expence of them, including the artillery, is 25,000 rupees in each month. For a little time I thought this expence advisable, for the execution of two important objects, the settlement of the country, and the expulsion of the Seiks, which, by the blessing of god, have both been effected. I have now determined to disband them, after satisfying them: but I consider it proper to guard the gauts until Cheyte, 'till when the fords continue; after that, when the river be full, so large an army will not be wanted at the ghants. In this case I request your advice, that as the army is on a reduced and saving establishment,

establishment, if you chuse I will keep the battalions until Cheyte; or, if your order, I will dismiss them immediately. Captain Frith will have no concern in the battalions, commandants belonging to me will command them. With respect to Lieutenant Polhill's battalion, which, with other gentlemen, is in attendance on the prince, you ordered me to learn his Royal Highness's wish; and that if he should be desirous to keep them, they might remain a little time with him. Upon learning his desire, I, conformably to your instructions, have consented to retain the battalion a little time, but I did not speak about retaining Lieutenant Polhill and the other gentlemen, nor does he continue with me in this command.—I merely wrote to you in obedience to his Royal Highness's desire, requesting that Lieutenant Polhill alone might remain, the approbation or refusal of which depends entirely upon your pleasure; I have no ability to maintain the battalion with the gentlemen. I desire nothing but your satisfaction, and hope that such orders as relate to the friendship between the Company and me, and as may be your pleasure, may be written in your own private letters to me through Major Palmer, and in your letters to the Major, that he may, in obedience to your orders, properly explain them to me, and whatever may be settled he may first in secret inform you of it, and afterwards I may write to you, having learnt your pleasure. In this way the secrets will be known to your mind alone, and the advice of all the concerns will be given in a proper manner. For further security, I trouble you again with my request that you will not listen to the representations of interested persons, in respect to my concerns; for in this case my affairs are disgraced, and the bankers, from whom I have borrowed many lacks towards paying the kists to the Company, are alarmed. I labour from my heart and soul to preserve your satisfaction, and you, from your kindness, are inclined to maintain the plan and agreement which has taken place; therefore to give entrance to interested persons is laying the bases of disagreement; I hope from your favour that, in the concerns between me and you, no interested may be admitted to hear the secrets between the Company and myself and your orders.

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From the Vizier: Received the 21st April 1785.

In every way I hope for advantage to my affairs from you; I therefore, thinking it in my mind to be proper, I write to you that I am entirely set at ease by the Company's army. The Seiks are villians with two faces, and always reside in the neighbourhood of Delhi. The country on the other side of the river belonging to his Majesties Khalsa, and under the late Zabelor Khan, extends to the gauts of the river, in the neighbourhood of my country—the Seiks often come there. This is not under my authority, that I should expel them from it; and from a long period of years the case is, that the Chiefs of Delhi do not properly furnish them, for the punishing of them is no such great matter; for the punishing of this generation of double-faced villians no additional expence is required. The Governor General, Mr. Hastings, when he discovered my distressed situation, engaged to remove the brigade of Futty Ghurr, and from my foresight of events got leave to retain four battalions, which I had spoken for additional security, which four battalions should be stationed at Futty Ghur, under the command of one officer in my confidence, and should whenever necessary, be sent under an Aumil to settle the Mahals of Saundy, &c. which are under the Aumil of Kherrabad; and also some Mahals belonging to Bherelli, &c. in that neighbourhood, and should return to Futty Ghur, and the expences of the four battalions, which consist of three thousand men, and nine guns, being fixed at twenty-five thousand rupees, in each month, are upon a reduced and saving establishment; accordingly, at the time of the disturbance of the Seiks, my old battalions, which were stationed in Kherrabad, and were sent to Berelli for the protection of the gauts, and the new-raised battalions, were sent to Kherrabad, &c. where it is determined, that for the Mahals belonging to Almas Ally Khan, which extend from the other side of the river from Anopsheer, &c. the horsemen of a few battalions from the horsemen and old battalions in my service, attached to Almas Ally Cawn, should be sent to Anopsheer with artillery, that from that quarter also, making an attack upon the Seiks, they should at the same time protect their own country: At that time a letter arrived to this purport—that the Futty Ghur brigade should remain there until the disturbances of the westward be composed. I, who am obedient to your orders, countermanded the march of Almas Ally Khan's people to Anopsheer, and did not object to Colonel Cumming's march, because, as long as you conceive no doubt of my readiness to execute your will, one brigade of the Company's troops is, by the blessing of god, quite sufficient to punish the enemies of the west; and if the expulsion of any person who might attempt to invade my country, would be effected by one brigade for the expulsion of the Seiks, who are double faced-villians, what had been done and planned was sufficient. I also who am obedient to your pleasure and advice, have troubled you with these full particulars, because our concerns here are the same, and you from your kindness are favourable to my affairs; having kindly attended to these circumstances, write to me; whatever may

may be approved by your mind for the relief of my situation, which I shall perform.—I am under your advice and directions. Further, in matters of government, preparations are proper and necessary before the time of action. When his Majesty was going from Delhi to Illabarabad, Mr. Hastings was here; I then told him the secret thoughts of my mind, that my country and that of the Company were the same; that I had the greatest confidence in our mutual friendship; and that if any disturbance should happen this year from the westward I had no fear or hope from any person; but that as the vicissitudes of the world could not be depended upon, self-defence was necessary, and that for this purpose a plan might be very easily settled for getting me at ease with respect to the frontiers of my own country; that if any person should conceive evil designs upon my country, his expulsion and punishment should be effected from hence—and the plan was this, That I should take out of the hands of the Zemindars the command of the two forts of Sartee and Kumri, on the frontiers of my country, which are very good forts, and of which the Zemindar is of a bad disposition, and does not pay the Company's money, and is a promoter of disturbances, and at his instigation others also make commotions, and that I should place a chief in my confidence, with a party of troops, in both forts; and after I should have paid the Company's debt, and the loans of the bankers, I should at the time of leisure and ability build some other forts like these, both large and small, in places which might be proper on the frontiers of my country in the Dooab, and should appoint people from the presence into these forts, instead of leaving them under the Aumils of that province; and after, if any person should make a disturbance, they would be properly punished, and a brigade of the Company's troops would always remain to expel our enemies; and in this event no person would dare to come into my country, even for plunder: Mr. Hastings approved of my proposal, and it was determined that the Cawnpore brigade should march to turn the Zemindar of that place, who was well supplied with military stores, out of those two forts; and that Ilmafs Ally Khan, also joining with his army and artillery, should assist in turning him out. When Mr. Hastings departed from Lucknow towards Calcutta, he told me, that with the consent of the Council, he would send leave for the brigade to march. As delays occurred in the receipt of the order for the brigade to march, in the mean time Ilmafs Ally Khan settled the concerns of the Zemindar of that place upon a perpetual Aumilvaree.—After a long delay, the order for the march of the brigade was issued;—this matter was delayed; and now also, if this matter should be approved, let it be executed, it is very necessary.

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From Hyder Beg Khan : Received 21st April 1785.

From your favour and kindness, and sincerity of heart, whatever doubt had arisen in your mind from my neglect, you informed Raje Gobind Ram of it: I am for this reason grateful for your kindness, that you have plainly declared the displeasure which you had conceived towards me. My protector! I am obedient to you, and under your orders; and I am the well-wisher and faithful servant of the government of the Company, and of his Highness, which in every respect are the same; and on this I know to be founded my good and advantage. Till this time I have never, to my own knowledge, been guilty of any deficiency in the duties of attachment to both governments, and of allegiance to your commands. An arzee of Raja Gobind Ram, containing all your orders, was received by his Highness, from whom a letter in answer to every point will be presented to you, and from it you will learn all particulars, I do not, therefore, write the circumstances explicitly, and at large; but I represent the affairs concisely. Conformably to the agreement which was entered into between his Highness and Mr. Hastings, for his discharge of the Company's money, and the plan and system which was settled to this time the kists have been regularly paid to Mr. Wombwell, who is at your presence, and from him you may learn it; and in future also, in case of your favour, assistance, and protection, the Company's money will, according to the kists, and to the agreement, be, by the blessing of God, regularly paid—no deviation from it shall happen. In the concerns of the agreement and plan which was made between his Highness and Mr. Hastings, and by approving which you have given the greatest ease to his Highness, and have repeatedly written to give him confidence; and Major Palmer, by your orders, has comforted his Highness. It is certain that you preserve the same favour towards his Highness, which will be a cause of glory to you in all Hindostan. His Highness, for the preservation of your friendship, is and will be from his heart fixed in obedience and readiness to execute your orders, which is a most necessary matter; and I, who am your servant, know my happiness and advantage to depend upon my obedience and allegiance to you: No deviation shall ever happen. I hope that in every concern which his Highness has written, you will attend to the rights of his Highness with the eye of favour and benevolence, and will order whatever may be the will of your mind. His Highness, from his regard to friendship, can make no excuses against your pleasure: He hopes for relief to his situation from your kindness, and accordingly you also have repeatedly given him confidence. I hope that such orders and commands as relate to the friendship between his Highness and the Company's government, and to your will, may be sent through Major Palmer,

Palmer or in your own private letters to the Major, who is appointed from you to the presence of his Highness, that in obedience to your orders he may properly explain your commands; and whatever affair may be settled, he may first secretly inform you of it, and afterwards his Highness may conformably thereto write an answer, and also may represent it. By this system your pleasure will always be fully made known to his Highness, and his Highness and we will execute whatever may be your orders, without deviating a hair's breadth; and let not the representations of interested persons be approved of, because his Highness make no opposition to your will, and I, your servant, am ready in obedience and service, and I make no excuses. In case you attend to the representations of interested persons, it will cause discredit to his Highness's concerns, and injury to the transactions with the banker. The good state of his Highness's affairs depends upon your favour and kindness, that the servants of his Highness's government, and the bankers, being confident in your protection and countenance, may transact business as usual.

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From Rajah Govind Ram to the Vizier, 25th Rubby ul Sanie 1199.

I went yesterday to pay my respects to the Governor General, Mr. John Macpherson, Behader, who in private conference, by the interpretation of Colonel Macpherson, spoke as follows:

"I formerly sent friendly letters to the Vizier, which he would have received from Major Palmer; also friendly letters to Husein Reza Khawn, Hyder Beg Khawn, and Almas Ally Khawn, were sent at the same time; and I now desire you, who I consider as the confidential servant of the Vizier, to acquaint him, that with respect to the friendship which subsisted between Mr. Hastings and his Excellency, my wish is to exceed it for the real good of his government; and I shall consider his friends and his enemies, as my own friends and enemies."

"My object is the advantage of the Company, and the concerns of the Company and his Excellency are the same; and I am fully persuaded that he will afford me every assistance in carrying these good intentions into execution. The affairs of Government cannot be carried on without much money, and I have the strongest confidence that his Excellency will use every endeavour that the money due to the Company may be paid off in proper time.

"I have heard that the Vizier was formerly subject to many expences on account of European gentlemen—my wish is to remove this inconvenience; therefore it is my desire that every rupee paid to the Company, or European gentlemen, shall appear upon the face of his account with the Company.

"I have no wish or desire but the prosperity of the Company and his Excellency, so as to acquire and merit a good name for myself.

"It was commonly the custom in signing Persian letters, to write two letters of the name only, but I always sign my name at full length; and whatever business I may have with his Excellency, shall be fully and distinctly wrote in letters under my signature and seal, and every letter I receive from the Vizier shall be laid before the Council, and all business shall be carried on entirely in this manner; but should it at any time so happen, that his Excellency should be desirous of my private opinion respecting any business, before he writes me publicly as above, I request he will mention it to Major Palmer, and also instruct his Vakeel to whom my friendly advice shall always be given.

"Many people will be representing various circumstances to his Excellency, and perhaps make use of my name; but he is not to give credit to any thing that may be said regarding me, except what shall be wrote in my letters, as already described; and his Excellency, by writing his wishes to me in the same manner respecting the affairs of the Sircar, will remove every room for doubts and uneasiness."

I can see from the Governor's conduct and observations, that he has no views or expectations of his own, but what are for the good of the Company and your Excellency.

Notwithstanding

Notwithstanding Mr. Hastings engaged that the Futtu Ghur detachment should march into the Company's dominions; but as it is now, on account of the enemies of the Sircar, marched to the Westward, it would in the opinion of your slave be advisable (and I see it to be the Governor General's sentiments) that your Excellency would write that the army having marched against the Seiks conformable to your orders and wishes, that your Excellency would therefore bear every expence till its return. There is little doubt but what the Governor will by and by, write from the Board on this subject; but should your Excellency's letter, as above, arrive before this happens, it will, I am certain, be very pleasing to the Governor General that the Nabob, without application, saw what was right, and did it.

Rajah Gobind Ram wrote to Hyder Beg Khawn the same as the above.

Second letter from Rajah Gobind Ram to Hyder Beg Khawn, dated 9th Jamadel Aweel 1599.

I went to pay my respects to the Governor General, who in a conference, through the interpretation of Colonel Macpherson, spoke as follows:

"Conformable to his Excellency's request, orders have been sent for the march of the Futtu Ghur detachment towards Pattegur, but Hyder Beg Khawn has not as yet sent any money for their expence; and notwithstanding that Mr. Hastings, when here, by the advice of the Gentlemen of the Council, sent orders for reforming the five battalions under Captain Frith, they have not to this time been reformed.

"I have without reserve shewn the most friendly disposition towards the Vizier's ministers, and I am persuaded that they will not, on their part, be inattentive to the interest of the Company or his Excellency; and I have now full confidence, from their depth of understanding, that they will strictly observe their engagements, and act accordingly on all occasions.

"Mr. Hastings in withdrawing Mr. Bristow, who was appointed from Europe to be Resident there (Lucknow) took upon himself the whole business, and engaged that he had settled a plan by which the Company's money should be paid on one year, and that the kists should be remitted at the periods agreed upon. Although the money of the kists has not hitherto been paid as promised, yet I am persuaded the amount of the several kists will, for the time to come, be regularly and without delay, paid as stipulated." He also observed, "But if it should so happen, that the money is not paid agreeable to promise, and it should appear necessary to send the above gentlemen again, or any other person, it cannot be helped, it must be laid upon the shoulders of the ministers for their neglect and non-performance."

I replied, the money for the kists is on the way; and I hope, by the blessing of God, that hereafter there will be no deviation from engagements in the payment of the kists.

The Governor then observed, that "with respect to discontinuing the officers of the battalion with Shahzader, we have wrote to recall Mr. Polhill, and the other gentlemen, and the above battalion to be made over to his Excellency. Major Palmer has wrote, in answer, that his Royal Highness the Prince expressed his wish that the battalion should continue with the gentlemen as usual; but recalling all the English officers in any of his Excellency's battalions, being with a view to lessen his expence, the continuance of Mr. Polhill, or the other gentlemen, cannot on any account, take place, because, should I agree to one gentleman, an hundred more would apply.—"Your friend remarked, that it was probable the Prince would be uneasy, unless there was a gentleman stationed with him as before.

The Governor General said, "It is not our wish to make his Royal Highness uneasy or displeased; I shall therefore write to Major Palmer, that an officer with a few companies of the regiment from Cawnpore at Lucknow, be constantly on duty with the Shahzadah; and when the regiment is relieved by another regiment from Cawnpore, these companies will also be relieved; and should his Royal Highness go to Benares, a party will attend him from the regiments at Chunar."

I have represented all these matters for information.

N. B. On the 11th Jemadel Awil Rajah Gobind Ram wrote to the Vizier exactly the same as the foregoing.

The Secretary lays before the Board the following letter from the Assistant to the Accountant at Lucknow, and the accounts enclosed in it.

To Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary.

Sir,

I request you will do me the favour of laying before the Honourable Board the accompanying Treasury and Nabob Vizier's Accounts for the month of March 1785.

I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient

humble Servant,

(Signed) TREVOR WHEELER,  
Ass<sup>t</sup> to the Account<sup>t</sup> at Lucknow.

Accountant's Office,  
Lucknow, 9th April 1785.

TREASURY

TREASURY ACCOUNT of the Accountant at Lucknow

TREASURY ACCOUNT of the Accountant at Lucknow, from the 1st to the 31st March 1785, or from the 5th of Chytebud to the 5th of the Intercalary Chytebud 1192.

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To balance remaining in the treasury the 28th February 1785, or the 4th of Cheytebud. 1192	-	-	-	-	2,83,796	1	6																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							
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( 283 )

1785.  
March 31. Balance due the Shroffs on account of the money borrowed from them in June 1783 - L<sup>w</sup> R<sup>s</sup> 13,61,055. 7. 6.

Lucknow the 1st of April 1785, or 6th of the Intercalary Chyetebud. 1192.

(Errors excepted)  
(Signed) TREVOR WHEELER,  
Affist, to the Accountant at Lucknow.



Ordered, That the Secretary do acknowledge the receipt of this letter, and these accounts, and that copies of the latter be sent to the Accomptant General.

Read the following petition from Munohur Dofs.

The Petition of Munohur Dofs.

As you always honour me with the strongest marks of your favour in all my business, Mr. Hay communicated your commands to me concerning the balance due to me by the Company, and further directed me to specify the specie, together with the exchange and batta of every place at which I propose to have payments made. In consequence I am now to hope from your favour that assignments may be granted me agreeable to the proportions hereunder specified: The payment of the whole sum due to me to be completed between the beginning of Byefack and the end of Badonn 1192 Fussully, and the money to be issued to me as the kists become due.—On examination of my accounts at the present, it will appear that about 18 lacks will be forthcoming.

Proposed Division of Payments.

	Lucw S <sub>2</sub> R <sub>2</sub>
At Lucknow	2,00,000
Assignment on Benares	13,00,000
Bills on Calcutta	3,00,000
Total	18,00,000

Exchange at which Munohur Dofs agrees to receive the above.

A premium of 4 per cent. on the assignment on Benares, amounts to	52,000
Deduct, the difference of exchange between Lucknow S <sub>2</sub> R <sub>2</sub> and Calcutta Siccas is 5½ per cent. on rupees is	16,500
Total premium to be paid Gopaul Dofs	35,500

Ordered, That the Secretary, assisted by the Accomptant General and Sub-Treasurer do propose the best and easiest mode of liquidating the claim of Gopaul Dofs upon the Company, at Calcutta, Lucknow, and Benares, and report their opinion to the Board, observing that the Company are not to be at the charge proposed for loss on exchange.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 26th April 1785.*

Read the following letter from Almas Ally Cawn to the Governor General, received from the office of the Persian translator.

From Almas Ally Cawn.—Received the 19th April 85.

Your letter, full of favour, written to ease my mind, honoured and comforted me by its arrival. You write that you had learnt that I had taken some alarm, and was sending my family away from Lucknow. As no idea of this ever came, or ever could come, into my mind, I am much astonished and confounded at these false accusers, who without reason represent to you such untrue intelligence, which has not the smallest foundation.

That your Excellency from your favour should have written thus fully upon the reports from hence, I ascribe entirely to your benevolence; and I derive therefrom the greatest comfort and reliance, that through their kindness the truth and veracity of this circumstance will be ascertained. May the Almighty, in return for all this beneficence, spread his shadow over you! I firmly hope from your justice, that, from your favour, the person who represented to you this intelligence may be compelled to prove it; that, if there be the smallest foundation for the idea of it, he may ascertain it; or, if otherwise, you may act as your benevolence shall dictate, so that in future he may

never represent again such false news. By the blessing of God, Major Palmer, who resides here, knows every thing good or bad, and is the master: Whatever I might say further would be superfluous. I, the slave of his Highness, will not to the end of my life think of any other place besides this. It will have been represented to you also, how steadfastly, from my heart and soul, I maintain my duty and attachment to the government of his Highness, and of the Company, which are the same. I am firmly convinced that, during my life, no deviation or deficiency will ever be found in my obedience, attachment, and labour for the Sircar of his Highness, and of the Company, which are the same.

The rest you will learn from the letters of Major Palmer. From your commands of benevolence I have received the completest confirmation and comfort both outwardly and inwardly, and I have no thoughts except those of slavery and obedience to government. Accordingly I am day and night employed, with the greatest exertions of attachment, in some concerns of the Sircar. I hope from your favours that I may be always honoured by the dispatch of kind letters, from which alone I can expect dignity, comfort, and advantage.

EXTRACT of the Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 29th April 1785.

Para. 6. You were acquainted by our last, that Colonel Sir John Cumming had received a requisition from the Vizier, for his return to Futty Ghur with the whole detachment, except two regiments of sepoy, that were to remain at Anopsheer under Lieutenant Colonel Knudson. He accordingly left Anopsheer on the 1st instant, but on the first day of his march he received authority to remain on the frontier, if he should think it necessary for the safety of the Vizier's dominions. The Colonel has since returned to his former station at Anopsheer: The Nabob has declared himself willing to defray the charges of this detachment, during an appearance of a necessity for its service.

EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 3d May 1785.

Read the following letter from the Accomptant General.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

As the sums to be charged to the account of, and received from, his Excellency the Vizier, for the expence of the troops serving in his dominions, must very materially affect the estimate of the probable resources and disbursements of the government, I am to request that the Honourable Board will be pleased to inform me of the amount at which I may estimate these for the year 1785-6, if those at which they were estimated for 1784-5, may not be adopted on forming the estimate of the ensuing year of account. The sums which have hitherto, since September 1782, been monthly charged to his Excellency's account, for the troops serving in his dominions, are as follows:

For the brigade at Cawnpore	—	—	2,60,000
For the regiment at Lucknow	—	—	25,000
For the five regiments of sepoy under Sir J. Cumming at	—	—	—
25,000	—	1,25,000	—
For one company of artillery with do.	—	20,000	—
		—	1,45,000
			—
Fyzabad 16th sun siccas	—	—	4,30,000
			—

On the return of the Bombay detachment, the two riffallahs of horse which arrived with it were attached, one to the station of Cawnpore, the other to that of Futty Ghur; but although the Board resolved, on the 27th February 1784, that an addition should be made to the subsidy for these troops, yet, as I have never been informed of the sum which should be carried to his Excellency's debit on this account, he consequently has not yet been debited for any part of their expence. I therefore deem it incumbent upon me to suggest this circumstance to the recollection of the Board, at the same time that I solicit from them instructions with respect to the sum at which I am to reckon the subsidy to be carried to the account of his Excellency the Vizier in 1785-6.

Fort William,  
Acct Genl's Office,  
the 21st April 1785.

I have the honour to be,  
with the greatest respect, &c. &c. &c.  
(Signed) WM LARKINS, Acct Genl.

There

There can be no doubt of the propriety of debiting the Nabob Vizier for the year 1785-6 for the brigade at Cawnpore, and the regiment at Lucknow; there might be some with respect to the propriety of debiting his Excellency for the expence of the detachment under Colonel Sir John Cumming for that year, if, from appearances in the upper provinces, there was not a likelihood that the services of that detachment would be necessary; but as there is a probability of commotions, and as the Vizier has agreed to admit the charge of the detachment upon himself, while a necessity exists for it; Agreed, That it be charged in the estimate accordingly.

Resolved also, That the Governor General be requested to ask the Vizier's permission to debit his Excellency for the two riffallahs of cavalry while they have been in his country, and to continue the same while they remain in it. This corps is the only corps of cavalry in the service of the Company, and may be essentially useful in his Excellency's dominions.

Resolved, That a similar request be made with respect to the company of chassours ordered from Chunargur to Cawnpore.

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Read another letter, as follows, and its enclosure, from the Accomptant General.

To the Honourable John Macpherson, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Council, Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

The military Paymaster General having, in a letter dated yesterday, transmitted to this office an intimation, that in the statement which I had the honour to lay before you on the 21st February, the loss by exchange upon the sums disbursed on account of the Candahar cavalry, should have been stated at current rupees 1,75,468. 9. 5, instead of current rupees 1,85,147. 9. 1; this will consequently reduce the sum which should be carried to the Vizier's debit, on account of the expence of this corps, current rupees 9,678. 15. 8. If therefore the Accomptant at Lucknow should already have debited the Nabob with the sum of current rupees 1,69,084. 9. 8, in obedience to your orders of the 5th April, he should credit his Excellency for the sum of current rupees 9,678. 15. 8, otherwise he will have occasion to debit him for no more than current rupees 1,59,405. 10. Since addressing the Honourable Board on the 21st February, the annual adjustment which takes place between the books of the military Paymaster General's department and the general books has been completed for 1782-3, this has enabled me to carry to the credit of his Excellency the balance of the accompanying account current, which the Accomptant at Lucknow should be directed to bring to the credit of his Excellency in the present month's account current, should the same not already have been closed, in which case it may be made in that for May 1785.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) WM LARKINS.

Fort William,  
Accomptant General's Office,  
29th April 1785.

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Mily Paymr Genl's Office, the 31st August 1784.

**Errors excepted.**

A true Copy.

(Signed) **CLAUDE ALEXANDER,**  
Milly Paymr Genl.

A true Copy.  
(Signed) A. G.

Gardiner,  
Head Asst Acct Genl's Office.

Ordered, That copies of the foregoing Letter, and Account from the Accomptant General, be transmitted to the Accomptant at Lucknow, and that he be instructed in conformity to the Accomptant General's recommendation.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 12th May, 1785.*

Read the following letter from the Secretary, Accountant General, and Sub-Treasurer.

To the Honourable John Macpherson, Esquire, Governor General, &c, Council, Fort William, in their Secret Department.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

In obedience to your orders of the 26th ult. by which we were directed to propose the best and easiest mode of liquidating the claim of Gopaul Dofs upon the Company, by payments at Calcutta, Lucknow, and Benares, for money lent by him in June 1783, we have considered how far and in what degree it was practicable for the Board to assign the funds that might not be required for the local exigencies of Government at Benares, to the satisfaction of this claim. We found, from the representation that had been transmitted by the Accountant at Lucknow, under date the 20th March, that the whole of the Company's funds at Lucknow, not absolutely necessary for the payment of the troops in the Vizier's dominions, were actually engaged to be remitted to Calcutta and Surat; and as the premium at which they are engaged to be remitted to Calcutta, and the loss of interest by the distance of time at which they are payable after date, are matters for which a compensation would be required, the just amount of which we are unable to determine with any degree of accuracy, we are of opinion that the Resident at Benares should be directed to remit to Lucknow whatever balance may remain in his hands from time to time, until the debt to Gopaul Dofs shall be completely paid, after defraying the charges of the Benares station, and furnishing the supplies to the Paymaster at Chunargur, making the remittances as expeditiously, and upon the most advantageous terms possible, to the Accountant at Lucknow, who, we think, should be directed to keep the Resident at Benares well informed of the amount due on this claim.

The growing demands upon the Presidency at this season of the year being much above the expected receipts, we have scarcely had the option of suggesting the mode by which such claims might be liquidated in Calcutta, especially as this would afford a plea for a greater compensation in the remittance thereof back to the place at which it was justly payable, according to the tenor of the engagement, than we conceived ourselves at liberty to agree to. The amount of the demand, were it proportioned to the distance to which the remittance should be made, ought certainly to be much less, if supplied from Benares, than if it were supplied from Calcutta to Lucknow; and this consideration has principally guided our judgment in the proposition which we have had the honour to submit to your Honourable Board.

We have the honour to be, with the greatest respect,

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Your most obedient

humble servants,

Fort William,  
6th May, 1785.

(Signed)

E. HAY, Secy.

C. CROFTES, S. T.

WM. LARKINS,

Acc<sup>t</sup>. General.

Agreed, That a statement of Gopaul Dofs's claim on the Honourable Company for money lent by him in June 1783, calculated to the end of August next, be sent to the Resident at Benares, and to the Accountant at Lucknow; that the Resident at Benares be directed to remit to the Accountant at Lucknow, at the most reasonable rates of exchange, whatever balance may remain in his hands from time to time, until all that is required, with the aid of the under-mentioned bills from Lucknow, to discharge the debt of Gopaul Dofs, shall have been paid off; and that the Accountant at Lucknow do make over to Gopaul Dofs, or his order, the bills for ten lacks that are to be granted on Calcutta, in the month of Bhaudeen, by his Excellency the Vizier, if

Gopaul Doss should be willing to accept the same, with an allowance to him of three per cent. for the loss of interest that will accrue by their not being payable in Calcutta until 90 days after date.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 12th May, 1785.*

The Governor General lays before the Board the following Letter from Major Palmer.

To the Honourable John Macpherson, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Fort William.

Dear Sir,

The late dispatches from Mr. Anderson will have completely informed you of the apparently precarious state of the alliance between the Company and Mahajee Scindia.

Although I believe that Scindia has had no other object in the offensive requisitions which he made, and excited the Shah to make, than to try the temper of our Government, in full persuasion that he should be able to deprecate any resentment that might be the consequence, by explanations and submission, I have, nevertheless, thought it my indispensable duty to prepare the Nabob Vizier to co-operate in whatever measures the situation of affairs may determine you to adopt.

It is with the greatest satisfaction that I can assure you, from his Excellency, of his firm and cheerful resolution to apply the utmost resources of his Government, in conjunction with yours, for the honour and security of both, by whatever means you shall judge most conducive to those ends, in the event of an actual war. The Vizier will furnish the disbursements for both brigades directly from his own revenues, so long as it may last; and his acting minister has given me the strongest assurances of exerting his talents, his credit, and his private fortune, towards effecting the intentions of his master. The Vizier will himself communicate to you his sentiments and wishes upon this subject. Both the Vizier and Hyder Beg Khan entertain a spirited and dignified resentment at the insult which has been offered to the Company's Government, and to the person of the Vizier.

His Excellency deems it absolutely necessary that the 2d brigade should march to Etawa, the south frontier of his dominions, upon the first intelligence of Mr. Anderson's having actually quitted the camp of Scindia. I have apprized Col. Ironside of this intention; and I have also advised Col. Sir John Cumming of the posture of affairs.

When I reflect upon the prodigious advantages which Scindia has derived from his alliance with the Company, (for I am convinced that it is to that alone he is indebted for his late successes) the delicacy which your Government has observed towards him, in a studious forbearance of every measure which might tend to injure or alarm him; I cannot help thinking the unfriendly and offensive return which he has made, gives you an undoubted right to take advantage of the fears which the spirited conduct of Mr. Anderson has excited in him, in order to secure yourselves against the possible consequence of a disposition so manifestly unprincipled and inimical. As the best means of effecting this purpose, I take the liberty to suggest the following propositions for a new treaty, to be executed by the Shah and Scindia. I hope that the zeal which I entertain for the honour of your Administration, and the prosperity of the Company's and the Vizier's governments, will excuse my presumption in offering you my opinion upon this occasion. The propositions are as follows:

1st. A renunciation by the Shah of all tribute and arrears of tribute from the Company, and of all claims upon any country possessed by them and the Vizier.

2d. A renunciation of the latter, and of all claim of Chout, for the time past and to come, from the Mahratta State, and from Scindia personally.

3d. A suitable establishment for the Shahzada, heir apparent, in the dooab adjoining to the country of the Nabob Vizier to the westward.

4th.

4th. The nomination of a Naib to the Vizarul to be vested in the Vizier. There may be other points useful and attainable, which the better information of Mr. Anderson may suggest.

I have the honour to be,  
with the highest respect,

Lucknow,  
26th April 1784.

Dear Sir,

Your faithful and humble servant,

(Signed) Wm. PALMER.

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*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 12th May 1785.*

**R**EAD the following Letter from the Accountant General.

To the Honourable John Macpherson, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Council of Fort William,  
in their Secret Department.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I think it my duty to point out to you, that I do not perceive any alteration in the amount charged as paid monthly to Mirza Saudit Ally by the Resident at Benares, for the stipend assigned to him by his Excellency the Vizier, correspondent to that which took place in the Lucknow accounts from the end of the Fuffully year 1191, or 31st August 1784, when the sum monthly charged to the debit of his Excellency's account was reduced from 25,000 to 16,666. 10. 8.—Should it be the Honourable Board's intention to allow of no more being paid to Saudit Ally than is chargeable to the Nabob Vizier's account for this stipend, it will be necessary to restrict the Resident from making any further payment to Saudit Ally upon this account, until the period shall arrive, at which, upon the reduced scale of 2,00,000 per annum, from the end of August last, he may be entitled to receive another payment thereon.

I have the honour to be,

With the greatest respect,

Fort William,  
Accountant General's Office,  
the 4th May 1785.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Your most obedient

humble servant,

(Signed) Wm. LARKINS,  
Acct. General.

Agreed, That the circumstances stated by the Accountant General be immediately noticed to the Resident at Benares;—that he be directed to inform the Board what instructions he received from the late Governor General, respecting the stipend of the Nabob Saudit Ally, and to restrict it in future to the amount agreed upon between the late Governor General and his Excellency the Vizier. If the late Governor General omitted to give any orders to Mr. Fowke upon this subject, the Vizier is to be informed thereof, and requested to permit the over-payment to be carried to his Excellency's debit.

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Read another letter from the Accountant General.

To the Honourable John Macpherson, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Council of Fort William,  
in their Secret Department.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Although I consider it to have been my duty, as Accountant General, to suggest, in that capacity, whatever occurred on the subject of the mode by which the demand that Gopaul Doss has upon the Company might be liquidated, to the other two gentlemen to whom the Honourable Board's reference, of the 26th ulto. was jointly addressed, yet I did not consider myself, on such an occasion, warranted to agitate the specific amount with which the Honourable Company should be charged at Lucknow, for the liquidation of the same.

When

When this and other loans were taken up from the Bankers, the Lucknow Haley Sicca Rupees were valued in account at 5. 9. 3 per cent. below Fyzabad 16 Sun ficas; but as, in the month of May 1784, the late Governor General directed the Lucknow Haley ficas to be valued in account as equal to Fyzabad 16 Sun ficas, if of these the same sum is to be charged in the Lucknow accounts as was credited for in them in Haley ficas, there will be a difference of Fyzabad 16 Sun ficas 71,910. 2. 7 between the sum for which the Lucknow treasury accounts were debited for the receipts of the principal of this loan, and that which they will be credited for the re-payment of the same; and as these are valued upon the Honourable Company's books at 11 per cent. above current, the loss which will appear upon this loan will be current rupees 79,820. 4. 6. the interest thereon being chargeable to the Nabob's account, whatever may be the amount of this, it will consequently not affect the state of the Honourable Company's property.

Should the Honourable Board be of opinion that this loss ought to be borne by the Company, an intimation of that opinion will authorize me to write off the same from the Honourable Company's general books; but if their determination should be different, it will become my duty to accommodate myself officially thereto.

I have the honour to be,  
with the greatest respect,

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Fort William,  
Accountant General's Office,  
the 10th May, 1785.

Your most obedient

humble servant,

(Signed) WM. LARKINS,  
Acct. General.

The Board are of opinion, that the loss stated in this letter should be borne by the Vizier, and agree that his Excellency be charged accordingly.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 13th May, 1785.*

THE Secretary lays before the Board the following letter, which he has received from Major Palmer.

To Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary for the Secret Department.

Sir,

I have this morning been honoured with the duplicate of your letter of the 19th ult.; the original I have not received.

You will be pleased to inform the Honourable Board, that when I had last the honour to confer with the Shah Zadah upon the subject of his return to court, and the proposals made to him for that purpose by Mahajee Scindia, his Royal Highness gave me the strongest assurances that he would accept of no conditions which the Government of Bengal and the Vizier should not judge perfectly safe and honourable to himself, and expedient for their common interests. That he considered the offers of Scindia as insidious, and had no further view in listening to them, than to learn his real designs, and to shew a proper respect and duty to the Shah's authority, under which Scindia assumes his negotiation.—The Prince is persuaded, that the Shah secretly approves of the protection on which he has chosen to rely, and regards it as the surest pledge of the stability of the Sultanut in himself and his descendants. The mother of the Prince, and all his real friends, who are near the Shah's person, strongly conjure him to reject all advances from Scindia, and his uncle Ally Ackber Cawn, who is with him, and the Vizier and his ministers constantly give him the same advice. I doubt not but that the Board, with the knowledge of these circumstances, will be perfectly easy as to the conduct of the Prince.

I trust that the last advices from Mr. Anderson will have removed all apprehensions of a rupture with Scindia; but if, contrary to expectations, any new alarm should be given, the Board may rely upon the utmost exertions of the Vizier's Government, in concert with our own, for obviating or defeating the purposes of their mutual enemies; and that the Vizier will cheerfully comply with every requisition and recommendation which they may think conducive to that effect.

The greatest part of the Vizier's troops, both horse and foot, are at present upon the frontiers the most exposed to danger, and ready to co operate with Colonel Cumming, in which situation they will remain until the rise of the rivers shall render the Vizier's country secure from any insult.

The

The two ruffallahs of Mogul cavalry, under the command of Sumshud Beg and Khajee Nama Aulah, were dismissed the Vizier's service, for a most daring mutiny in his capital, aggravated by personal insult to himself, and threats against the life of his acting minister.—The Vizier, some time since, had in consideration to re-admit them again into his service, upon their offering to make due submission, and to accept of a diminished pay; but they did not wait the result of his determination, and accepted of offers made to them in the mean time by Scindia, who has detached them against the disaffected Rajepoots to the southward, so that it is now become impracticable to re-engage them in the service of the Vizier.

I do not apprehend that the conduct and negotiations of Bow Buxey can be productive of any ill consequences, as I am duly informed, both by the Prince and the Vizier, of his proceedings at their respective durbars, that no demand has been made by him upon the Vizier which can be deemed extraordinary, nor do I know to what the reports of such demands which have reached the Governor General can allude, unless it be to a proposal, or rather suggestion, of Bow Buxey's for a more free communication, and constant correspondence between the Vizier and Scindia, which his Excellency seemed to understand as calculated to promote an appearance of a separation of interest, or a want of concert between his Government and the Company's, but which was explained by a similar application from Scindia, through Mr. Anderson, to me, and had for its real or apparent meaning nothing more than a desire of shewing to the world that perfect harmony and friendship subsisted between the Vizier's Government and Scindia, and to remove a contrary opinion which it was supposed might have gained ground from some late appearances; and to the request, as thus explained, the Vizier made a suitable and favourable reply.

The Vizier will most cheerfully consent that Allahabad, and any other of his forts, shall be garrisoned by the Company's troops, whenever they shall judge it expedient for the better security of his country; but as at present all appearances of danger have subsided, he supposes that the Board will think it unnecessary.

By what I learn from the public news-papers, a general confederacy of the Rajepoots is likely to be entered into for freeing themselves from the Mahratta tribute; that the Rajahs of Keeche, Hootie, and Boondy of Joudpore, have already acceded to it, and in all probability it will be formidable enough to divert the attention of Scindia from his great objects at the Shah's durbar, and in the Doab.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Sir, &c. &c.

Lucknow,  
3d May, 1785.

(Signed) W. PALMER,  
Agent from the G. G. at the C<sup>t</sup> of the  
Nabob Vizier.

Major Palmer having assured the Board, in the foregoing to their Secretary, that the Vizier will most cheerfully consent that Allahabad, and any other of his forts, shall be garrisoned by the Company's troops whenever they shall judge it expedient for the better security of his country; and the Board being yet of opinion, notwithstanding the favourable change that has lately taken place in the face of affairs in the Upper Country, that it is of great importance to put the fort of Allahabad into a proper state of defence, and that it should be garrisoned, at least in part, by the Company's troops; the Governor General takes occasion to lay before the Board the following Proposal, which he has received from Colonel Ironside, for the better fortifying that post.

#### On the Fortrefs of Allahabad.

Our armies have for a series of years been continually crossing a canal cut from the Ganges to the Jumna (which insulates the town and fortrefs of Allahabad) without its even been known that such a communication existed. During the few days I was last in this quarter, I casually discovered, to my utter astonishment, this canal, which Shujah Uldowlah caused to be excavated in 1764, either to obstruct the enterprizes of the approaching English, or to impede the invasions of the Abdallies, of both which he was then apprehensive.

Of all the strong holds I have met with in India, Allahabad appears to be the best calculated for a provisionary magazine for a military station for our frontier troops, and for their retreat in case of any untoward accident; possessing this, indeed, our forces would become little liable to check or repulse. For it is observed, that troops always advance and engage with more intrepidity

dity and confidence when they know that their rear is covered. Hence the origin of second lines in the array of battle.

In the midst of a luxuriant plain, and at the confluence of two large rivers, stands this asylum, not less strong by natural position than fortified by art; but above all, happily situated for the provision of both dry and green forage (the environs being fertile beyond imagination) as well as the safe and easy importation of all kinds of military stores. It seems to require at present little more to render it inaccessible than its own ditch to be cleaned and deepened. The extremities of the ditch should be left uncut, for fear of inundation, and the intervals closed by two fraized redoubts. The earth from the lunette and ditch would constitute an excellent glacis. By leaving the wall eight or ten feet, and clearing away all the internal buildings and rubbish, abundant materials would be at hand to form a solid rampart, sloped and turfed on the inside for all commodious thatched lodgments, quarters, and barracks, also in preferable situations, and the place be thus rendered level, verdant, salubrious, cool, and comfortable for the reception (if expedient) of a whole brigade.

To fraize the covert way, and render all the ground for a mile round a green open esplanade, would be the whole extra required, and even the earth from thence collected contribute to elevate the glacis.

For the execution of this design, the field establishment of brigade workmen, assisted by two or three hundred extra builders, would prove equal. I would undertake to perform it with this inconsiderable aid; but should there arise any unforeseen and unexpected charges, by the construction of a small ornamental pagoda of stone, at the concourse of the Jumna and Ganges, as a sanctuary for all the idols now in adoration there collectively, the toll at present levied on the pilgrims, from their libations, might soon be augmented and collected by the Vizier, to an amount fully competent to defray the expence of every contingent repair and alteration.

Agreed, That a copy of the foregoing plan be transmitted to the Commander in Chief, and Chief Engineer; and that their opinions be desired of the work that should be done, and the alterations required, to render the fortress of Allahabad defensible against any force that can appear before it, without subjecting his Excellency the Vizier to any unnecessary expence.

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*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultation, the 26th May, 1785.*

To the Honourable John Macpherson, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Members of the Supreme Council, Secret Department.

Gentlemen,

I yesterday received a letter from your Secretary, informing me that your Honourable Board, notwithstanding the favourable change that has taken place in the Upper Country, are still of opinion that it is of great importance that the fort of Allahabad should be put into a proper state of defence, and that it should be garrisoned, at least in part, by the Honourable Company's troops; and enclosing to me a copy of a plan drawn up by Colonel Ironside for the better fortifying that post, on which my opinion is requested.

I have already, in my letter to your Honourable Board of the 26th April, offered it as my opinion, that it would be ineligible to require possession of the fort of Allahabad; that our troops can at all times be more usefully employed in the field than garrisoning fortresses; that Allahabad in its present state is, in case of any disaster to our troops, capable of affording them protection, and of holding out against a Mahratta, or any other country army. The works and alterations designed by Col. Ironside would certainly improve the place, as well in regard to its strength as to its salubrity; but I have no conception that they could be performed in the manner he proposes, on the contrary, am confident *that in the execution of them would be expended many lacks of rupees*, and the preservation of them afterwards would be a constant source of expence.

If, however, the Board are come to the resolution of putting this fort into a complete state of defence, and of a convenience for the reception of a garrison of English troops, (to which I must again repeat) the Nabob's consent will not be easily gained, I have to recommend, in order that a work of such magnitude and importance may not be undertaken without the best information

tion, that two experienced engineers be sent to survey and examine the fort, and to give the opinion of the expence that will be incurred by executing Colonel Ironside's design, or to prepare and submit for inspection plans of their own. Colonel Watson's opinion should also be required on a proposition of this fort, appertaining to his department as chief engineer.

The fort of Allahabad is of very large extent, near, I suppose, *two miles round*, the high walls are built entirely of stone, with battlements, according to the old method of fortification, except a few bastions, which were new-modelled by the late Major Bruce, at the desire of the late Nabob, in 1773. To take away the battlements, and to lower the walls, as Colonel Ironside proposes, would of itself be an expence that he does not seem aware of; but to form a solid rampart in the inside, sloped and turfed, to erect commodious lodgements, quarters, and barracks; to deepen and clear the ditch, and raise a proper glacis; and by this means modernize the fort, are undertakings of vast expence and labour, and which I cannot, in the present distressed situation of the Company's and Nabob's affairs, at any rate recommend.

I shall conclude this letter with the following observation, that our power and authority in this country can only be maintained whilst we are able to oppose the enemy in the field: It is true that our army in the upper provinces might receive a sudden check, and be obliged for a short time to seek protection within the walls of a fort, which I have already said, Allahabad in its present state is fit to afford; but if ever we are compelled to have recourse to, and rest our security in fortified places, capable of sustaining long and regular sieges, our force must then be reduced to so low a state, as to threaten the total expulsion of the British nation from Hindostan.

I have the Honour to be,  
Gentlemen,

Your most obedient  
humble Servant.

Fort William,  
16 May 1785.

(Signed) G. STIBBERT.

The Board agree with the Commander in Chief in the opinion which he has expressed, that our best security in time of war is in opposing the enemy in the field; but the necessity of having a strong post to resort to in the event of any sudden check, not only for the sake of the protecting that such post would afford, but that time may be given for collecting troops, and regaining that authority and credit which would have been in a great degree lost by an adverse stroke of fortune, induces the Board to persevere in their conviction of the great importance of having Allahabad in a proper state of defence, which they believe not to be this case at present, and garrisoning it with the Company's troops. The chief engineer's opinion has been lately desired on Colonel Ironside's plan for repairing this fortress.

To the Vizier: Written 12th May 1785.

As the two Rossallahs of cavalry which are now in your county are the only corps of cavalry in the service of the Company, and may be essentially useful in your dominions, I am to request your permission to debit you for them while they have been in your country, and to continue the same while they remain in it. I must also make a similar request with respect to the Company of Chaffusfort ordered from Chuargur to Cawnpore.

To Hyder Beg Khan Hussun Baza Khan, of the same Tenor and Date.

To the Vizier: Written 12th May 1785.

I have pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters, containing requests that you may be relieved as much as possible from expence for the gentlemen stationed at Lucknow. This is a matter full of important benefits. and I have attended to your wishes therein: Accordingly some arrangements have been already resolved on, the particulars of which will be communicated to you by Major Palmer.

To Hyder Beg Khan, and Hussun Beza Khan, of the same tenor and date.

To the Nawab Vizier: Written 19th May 1785.

I have had the honour of receiving your Highness's last letter of the 10th May: It has given me real satisfaction. Your Highness has on every occasion shewn a spirit worthy of your high situation

situation and illustrious descent, and this is not the first occasion in which you have united that spirited disposition of mind with strong attachment to the Company and their representatives in India.

Your conduct, in going to the aid of Governor General Hastings, during the troubles of Benares, made a lasting and favourable impression on my mind, and your offers to proceed now, at the head of your own and the Company's forces in your country, to resent any indignity that may be offered, raises my esteem for your Highness to the highest degree.

I know that your Highness means this friendly offer from your heart; and should a proper occasion offer, I will certainly agree to your proposal with readiness: I will mention it in the most favourable manner to the Company, and to the ministers of my sovereign, who will not fail to give the King of England a full impression of your Highness's attachment to the English.

At present I have every reason to believe that neither Scindia nor Shah Allum will deviate from the most friendly declarations which they have recently made to me, disavowing any idea of dissatisfaction towards your Highness or the English.

Your own troops, under proper management and discipline, and the English brigades, animated by the influence of your Highness's attachment to this government, are fully sufficient to command the respect of all the powers of Indostan united; and as it is neither my own disposition, nor that of your Highness, to disturb neighbouring powers, or offend our allies, so I trust the peace of your dominions will be long established. Major Palmer will mention other particulars relative to our military security. I am highly pleased with the zeal which your ministers have shewn towards your own and the Company's government on this late occasion.

To Hyder Beg Khan: Written 19th May 1785.

I have received your last letter [recapitulate the contents] which gave me great satisfaction. His Highness may be assured, that this voluntary offer from his friendship is most pleasing to me, as I am convinced that it came from his heart; and when a proper occasion offers I will certainly agree to his proposal. What I have written to his Highness, you may consider as equally addressed to yourself. Major Palmer will inform you of further particulars.

The Secretary lays before the Board the following letter from the Assistant to the Accountant at Lucknow.

Edward Hay, Esquire.

Sir,

I am favoured with your letter, and its several enclosures, under date the 5th ultimo.

In obedience to the Honourable Board's commands, I have address'd the Vizier respecting the additional sum to be charged to him on account of the Candahar cavalry, and also on the subject of the demands made on him by Majors Lumfaine and Gilpin. I will do myself the pleasure of transmitting to you his Excellency's answer the instant it is communicated to me.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient humble Servant,

(Signed) TREVOR WHEELER,  
Assist Acct at Lucknow.

Lucknow,  
May 3d 1785.

Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary.

Sir,

I request the favour of your laying before the Honourable Board the accompanying treasury, and Nabob Vizier's accounts, for the month of April 1785.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient

humble Servant,

(Signed) **TREVOR WHELER,**  
Afft Acct at Lucknow.

Accomptant's Office,  
Lucknow, 8th May 1785.

Ordered, That the accounts inclosed in the foregoing letter be entered after the consultation, and that copies thereof be sent to the Accomptant General.

TREASURY



NABOB VIZIER in Account with the Honourable Governor General and Council, from the 1st to the 30th of April 1785, or from the 6th of the Intercalary Cheytebud. to the 6th of Byfaakbud. 1192.

Dr.	Cr.			
To balance remaining due the 31st of March 1785, or 5th of the Intercalary Cheytebud. 1192	—	—	29,72,790	12 7
To Army Subsidy.	—	—		
For 1 brigade, according to the old establishment	—	2,60,000	0	0
For 1 regiment stationed at Lucknow, according to the new establishment	—	25,000	0	0
For 5 regiments and 1 company of artillery under Colonel Sir John Cumming	—	1,45,000	0	0
To Mirza Saudit Ally's Stipend.	—	—	4,30,000	0 0
For one month, at 2,00,000 per annum	—	—	16,666	0 0
To Rohilla Stipends.	—	—	—	—
Paid them for the Intercalary Cheyte	—	—	5,131	8 0
To Interest on Mr. Frazer's Bond.	—	—	—	—
One month on 14,298, the balance due on the bond the 31st March, at 8 per cent. per annum	—	—	95	5 1
	—	—	4,51,893	7 9
Fyzd 16 Sun Sicca rupees	—	—	34,24,684	4 4
Balance due on account of Mr. Frazer's bond, 31st March, is	—	14,298	0	0
Deduct, The proportion of the receipts that the balance due on the bond bears to the whole amount due by the Vizier the 31st March	—	1,563	0	0
Remains due on account the bond the 30th April	—	—	12,735	0 0
Balance due on account of the donation 31st March	—	78,210	0	0
Deduct, The proportion of the receipts that the balance due on account of the donation bears to the whole amount due by the Vizier the 31st March	—	8,550	0	0
Remains due on account the donation 30th April	—	—	69,660	0 0
By amount received as per the Accountant's treasury account	—	—	—	—
By balance remaining due the 30th April, 1785 or 6th of Byfaakbud. 1192	—	—	3,25,000	0 0
	—	—	30,99,684	4 4
	—	—	34,24,684	4 4
	—	—	34,24,684	4 4

( 298 )

Lucknow, the 1st of May 1785, or 7 of Byfaakbud. 1192.

Errors excepted.

(Signed) TREVOR WHEELER,  
Assistant Account at Lucknow.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 14th June, 1785.*

Governor General,

I beg leave to lay before the Board a letter which I have received from Major Palmer.

The Board will recollect the letters that are recorded in Consultation 26th April, from the Vizier and his acting minister.

I communicated to Major Palmer my dissatisfaction at the contents of these letters, which were in the nature of a charge against this Government for breach of the engagements made with the Vizier.

Such a charge was ill-founded; and a simple reference to Rajah Govind Ram's letters is sufficient to prove it so: Rajah Govind Ram states it as his own opinion, that it would be agreeable to this Government that the Vizier should, of his own accord, offer to pay the expence of Sir John Cumming's detachment. The truth is, that the Company have not funds to pay such expence; and as the detachment, which is maintained for the Vizier's service, is absolutely necessary for the security of his dominions, and has been lately of very essential use, it seems most reasonable that the charges attending it should be defrayed by his Excellency.

I hope that the Vizier's funds will enable him to do so, more especially as the reduction which has lately been effected by this Government, in the allowances granted by his Excellency to the servants of the Company in his country, gives him an additional resource of more than ten lacks of rupees per annum.

I formerly intimated to the members of the Board my intention of allowing Major Palmer to resign his office at Lucknow, whenever he should think proper; and their wishes concurred with my own, that the succession to it should be vested in Lieutenant Colonel Harper, a gentleman of experience and ability, respected for the integrity of his character, and esteemed by the Vizier. I have accordingly appointed him my Agent at the Court of Lucknow.

The Board will observe from Major Palmer's letter now recorded, that he proposes to leave Lucknow very soon.

I have been further guided in my nomination of Lieutenant Colonel Harper to this trust by the approbation which the members of the Board gave to a military plan for the security of the Vizier's country, which Colonel Harper submitted to them individually, before he went to the Upper Provinces; and to support which the office of agent from the Governor General will give him particular influence, and the best opportunities of affording it public effect.

The letters, announcing to the Vizier Colonel Harper's nomination to this temporary appointment, will be regularly laid before the Board; and it is with particular pleasure that I avail myself of the present occasion in favour of Lieutenant Colonel Harper, to testify to the Board, and to the Company, what I think due to the merit of an officer, who was not recommended to me, nor connected with me; but whom, upon account of his former services to the Company, and the well-known satisfaction which his conduct gave to the Nabob of Oude, in the time of the late Sujah ul Dowlah, I have thought it my duty to select for this trust, in preference to others who had claims to my support, and were nearly interested in the success of my administration. I have been further induced to this choice, as it is most consistent with the spirit of the agreement that was made by Mr. Hastings with the Vizier in 1784; indeed I may add, that the Vizier has made a particular request to me, that, if Major Palmer left Lucknow, Colonel Harper should be his successor.

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To the Honourable John Macpherson, Esquire, Governor General, &c. &c. Fort William.

Sir,

The day after I had the honour to receive your letter of the 8th instant, I was seized with a violent fever, which, from that day to this, has rendered me totally incapable of any application to business. It

It has given me great uneasiness to learn, that the Nabob's answer to the representations from you, made through Govind Ram, should have made an unfavourable impression upon your mind of the intention either of the Nabob or myself: I can assert, that no such effect was expected from it. I must confess that the surprise which yourself and the Board have expressed at his Excellency's answer, is to me unaccountable. It was not possible the Vizier could avoid being alarmed at the intimation of a demand for the discharge of the disbursements of the Futtu Ghur detachment, after he had been publicly and recently informed of the solemn renunciation of it made in council for the present year; and after having assigned three-fifths of his whole revenue to the complete discharge of his debt to the Company, and to relieve them in their necessities. The Nabob trusted to the faith of the public engagements, and to the sense which the Members of the Board would entertain of this great exertion which he had made for the interests of the Company, and the credit of their administration, not only for exemption of any further demands, but for every indulgence in their power to shew him towards the relief of his funds. I understood it to be the idea of yourself and Mr. Hastings, that my continuation in office at Lucknow should be considered by the Vizier as an additional security or pledge of a firm adherence, on the part of our Government, to the engagements which he had entered into with the late Governor General, and for the support of his ministers in the execution of them. It was therefore with great concern that I observed, from the letter of Govind Ram, a wish on your part to extend the demands of the year, in the very instance which had been specifically provided against by a subsequent act of the Board; and my concern upon this occasion is considerably increased by your opinion expressed to me of the propriety of the demand, and the probability that it will be publicly made. I am entirely unacquainted with any circumstance which can have occasioned any change in the state of the proposition respecting the Futtu Ghur detachment, since the 14th January; when it was resolved in Council to continue the detachment, but to suspend the charge of it to the Vizier, until the receipt of orders from the Company. The purpose of retaining the detachment was to protect the Vizier's dominions against the attempts of his enemies: And, whether this service was performed by obviating or repelling such attempts, no claim can be thereby established, in contradiction to a renunciation made under the expectation of such service, and without any provision expressed for it. Viewing the requisition in these lights, and considering myself, as I have said above, placed here to encourage in the Vizier a firm reliance on the good faith of our Government, and in the moderation of your personal character, I could not with consistency oppose the representations which his Excellency thought it indispensable to make in vindication of his rights, and to engage your support of them. His appeal was made personally to yourself, as was particularly expressed in it; and consequently could not mean to insinuate to your colleagues, or to the public, any apprehensions of your intention to depart from the public engagements.

The only material subject, besides the above, which I have seen in Rajah Govind Ram's letters, was that of your having complained that the stated kists for the liquidation of the Nabob's debt to the Company had not been regularly discharged: and that, unless they should be so in future, you should be obliged to send Mr. Bristow, or some other Resident, to Lucknow; as the abolition of that gentleman's office had been upon the express condition of punctuality in this article, and for which Mr. Hastings made himself responsible. As you had received information from me, before this conversation passed with Rajah Govind Ram, that the kists had been and continued to be paid with great exactness, and Rajah Govind Ram did not state in his letters, to what particular kists you alluded, the Vizier could attribute to no other than the misrepresentation of interested persons, your reproach of failure on this head; and when this reproach was combined with the name of Mr. Bristow, it carried an air of unkindness under which it was impossible for him to be either easy or silent.

With respect to the time of payment of bills drawn upon Calcutta, it was settled by the late Governor General; and, I believe, conformable to the practice of the bankers.

I have no where seen, in the letters of the Rajah Govind Ram to his Excellency, that it was your desire he should refer to me alone for the explanation of your sentiments, as contained in your public letters.

If the actual expence incurred by the Company for the troops stationed for the protection of the Vizier's dominions, exceeds the subsidy paid for them by his Excellency, it ought not in any shape to be ascribed to a necessity of service performed for him: the subsidy is estimated much higher than the actual expences of the establishments existing when it was made. An amazing increase of officers has since taken place; and the supernumeraries have been crowded upon the stations within his dominions, while there have been great deficiencies in the number of privates, particularly of Europeans.

Your

Your reductions in the allowances granted by the Vizier, to the gentlemen at Lucknow, will be highly acceptable, and a great relief to his Excellency's finances.

As I have always been of opinion, that the affairs of government at this court might be most advantageously conducted by an agent known to possess not only your public confidence, but also your private friendship; as I have no intention to engage in public business after the departure of Mr. Hastings, it has been always my wish to be relieved from this situation, whenever you should think my services might be dispensed with: I have frequently told you so, to relieve you from any embarrassment which delicacy towards me might lay you under. But as I was resolved to sacrifice every personal consideration to the opinion which yourself and Mr. Hastings had entertained, that my continuance in office might be productive of public benefit, I had not expressed any wish to be removed at this particular time; nor was it my intention to have desired leave to retire, until the arrangements formed by Mr. Hastings, had terminated. It is, however, perfectly agreeable to me to retire at this time; and I have, in consequence of your desire, sent for Colonel Harper, and acquainted him with my intention to leave Lucknow as soon as I am in a situation to travel, and can adjust some necessary affairs. I hope that neither of these considerations will detain me beyond the first of July; for it is my earnest wish to get away as soon as possible.

I do not think that you could have made a more judicious choice of an agent than Colonel Harper, nor one more acceptable to the Vizier and his ministers.

I am convinced that you will find the sincerest disposition in the Nabob Vizier, and his servants, to promote the interests of the Company, and the honour of your administration.

For my own part, I sincerely lament that I am so peculiarly situated, as to render it unavoidable that I must either appear to oppose the views of my employers, or to act contrary to my own sense of justice.

I have the honour to be,

Lucknow,

31 May 1785.

Sir,

Your most obedient and humble servant,

WM PALMER.

The members of the Board entertain an high opinion of Lieutenant Colonel Harper; and they have an entire confidence in his abilities and integrity. They approve of the principle on which the Governor General has nominated this gentleman to be his agent at Lucknow; and they are hopeful that the other object, which the Board had in contemplation for Lieutenant Colonel Harper, will be forwarded by this appointment. The Board wait the orders of the Company for the regulation of affairs in the Vizier's country.

The Secretary lays before the Board the following letter from the Resident at Benares.

To Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary to the Secret Department.

Sir,

I have received the honour of your letter of the 12th ultimo, communicating the orders of the Honourable Board, by which the amount of the Nabob Saad Ul Ally Cawn's stipend is in future restricted to rupees 16,666. 10. 8. per month.

I beg you will please to inform the Honourable Board, that I never received any instruction whatever from the late Governor General on this subject.

I am,

Benares,

1st June 1785.

Sir,

Your very obedient servant,

F. FOWKE,

Rest.

Agreed, That the over-payment to Saad Ally Cawn be stated to the Vizier, and that he be requested to permit the amount thereof to be carried to his Excellency's debit, agreeable to the resolutions of the 12th ultimo.

*Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 28th June 1785.*

The Secretary lays before the Board the following letter from the Assistant to the Accountant at Lucknow, and the accounts enclosed in it.

To Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary.

Sir,

I request the favour of your laying before the Honourable Board the accompanying Treasury and Nabob Vizier's Accounts for the month of May, 1785.

I am,

Sir,

Accomptant's office, Lucknow,

8th June 1785.

Your most obedient

humble Servant,

(Signed)

TREVOR WHEELER,

Asst Acct at Lucknow.

Ordered, That the accounts mentioned in the foregoing letter be entered after the consultation.

Read the following letters received, and sent and entered in the books of the Persian correspondence.

To the Vizier: written 12th May 1785.

As the two roffalas of cavalry, which are now in your country, are the only corps of cavalry in the service of the Company, and may be essentially useful in your dominions, I am to request your permission to debit you for them while they have been in your country, and to continue the same while they remain in it. I must also make a similar request with respect to the Company of chaffeurs ordered from Chunargur to Cawnpore.

To Hyder Beg Khan and Hussen Reza Khan; of the same tenor and date.

From the Vizier: received 21st June 1785.

I have had the pleasure to receive your letter; your order, that two roffalas of horse are stationed by the Company to watch and defend my country, and the concerns of my government; and that, from their remaining, my dominions will be protected, and my concerns benefited; and that, from the day of the said roffalas being fixed in my country, as long as they may remain there, the expence of their pay should be written in my accounts; that at this time, a company of Europeans, which was at Chunar, has been added to the brigade at Cawnpore; and that, whilst they shall continue with the troops of Cawnpore, their pay also should be issued from my Sircar, and written in my accounts.—My friend, I am in every respect desirous of your satisfaction, and on these points I can make no opposition to the manner which you direct; whatever may be your will, I agree to it: I will pay it in the year 1193.—The particulars of my distresses are well known to you, and you have been favourable for the reduction of my expences: I hope that you will not order an increase of expence. My property and country are the same as the Company's Sircar, there is no difference; and the protection of my country and of the concerns of my government, is effected through the blessing of God, and the friendship of the Company; it does not depend upon two roffalas of horse, and a company of European soldiers, because there are in the brigade of Cawnpore, two battalions of Europeans, whose pay is issued by me with the pay of the brigade. I am in all respects hopeful of your favour. At present I can make no excuses, because it might occur to your mind that I do not chuse to obey your

your will: their assignments shall be given in the year 1193. In future, turning your eye to the relief of my situation, be favourable in a proper manner, that such expences may not be put upon me.

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From Hyder Beg Khan: received 21st June 1785.

I have been honoured by the receipt of your letter, about the two rossalas of horse and the company of chaffeurs. My protector, his Highness, is obedient to your will, and ready to execute your orders; and from your favours he hopes relief from his situation. Whatever you will order, he will execute. Every particular will be fully learnt from his Highness's letter which is sent. I am under your orders and commands, and consider obedience, in every thing which you may order, to be my happiness and advantage. I am hopeful that I may be honoured with letters of kindness.

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To the Nauvab Vizier: written 19th May 1785.

I have had the honour of receiving your Highness's last letter of the 10th May. It has given me real satisfaction, that your Highness has, on every occasion, shewn a spirit worthy of your high situation and illustrious descent; and this is not the first occasion in which you have united that spirited disposition of mind with strong attachment to the Company and their representatives in India.

Your conduct in going to the aid of Governor General Hastings, during the troubles of Benares, made a lasting and favourable impression on my mind; and your offer to proceed now, at the head of your own and the Company's forces in your country, to resent any indignity that may be offered, raises my esteem for your Highness to the highest degree.

I know that your Highness means this friendly offer from your heart; and, should a proper occasion offer, I will certainly agree to your proposal with readiness. I will mention it in the most favourable terms to the Company, and the minister of my sovereign, who will not fail to give the King of England a full impression of your Highness's attachment to the English.

At present, I have every reason to believe, that neither Sindia nor Shaw Allum will deviate from the most friendly declarations, which they have recently made to me, disavowing any idea of dissatisfaction towards your Highness or the English.

Your own troops, under proper discipline, and the English brigades, animated by the influence of your Highness's attachment to this government, are fully sufficient to command the respect of all the powers of Indostan united; and as it is neither my own disposition, nor that of your Highness, to disturb neighbouring powers, or offend our allies, so I trust that the peace of your dominions will be long established. Major Palmer will mention other particulars relative to our military security. I am highly pleased with the zeal which your ministers have shewn towards your own and the Company's government, on this late occasion.

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To Hyder Beg Khan: written 19th May 85.

I have received your last letter [recapitulate the contents] which gave me great satisfaction. His Highness may be assured, that this voluntary offer from his friendship, is most pleasing to me, as I am convinced it came from his heart; and when a proper occasion offers, I will certainly agree to his proposal. What I have written to his Highness, you may consider as equally addressed to yourself. Major Palmer will inform you of further particulars.

TREASURY

TREASURY ACCOUNT of the Accountant at Lucknow, from the 1st to the 31st of May 1785, or from the 7th of Byfakbud to the 8th Jeitebud 1192.

To the Nabob Vizier.		By Fort William Presidency.	
To balance remaining in the treasury the 30th of April, or 6 Bylaak bud 1192	3,25,121 1 8	Paid the Paymaster General, as per his receipt of 4th of May, for Ct Rs. 3,60,759.	3,25,000 0 0
Received from Hyder Beg Cawn, kift for Jeite	3,25,000 0 0	Paid Mr. Blaine his salary, as surgeon, for May, Ca Sa Rs 1,250	1,312 8 0
		Do. Mr. Wombwell do. as Accountant, for May, Ca Sa Rs 2,600	2,730 0 0
		Do. Mr. Wheeler do. as Asst to the Accountant, for May 1,000	1,000 0 0
			5,042 8 0
		By the Nabob Vizier.	
		Paid the Rohillas for Bylaak	5,131 8 0
		By balance remaining in the treasury the 31st May 1785, or 8th Jeite bud 1192	3,35,174 0 0
			3,14,947 1 8
		Fyzd 16 Sun Sicca Rupees	6,50,121 1 8
May 31.—Balance due the Shroffs on account the money borrowed from them in June 1783	13,61,055 7 6		

Lucknow, 1st June 1785, or 9th. Jeite bud 1192.

## Errors excepted,

TREVOR WHEELER,

Assistant Accountant at Lucknow.



## EXTRACT of the Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 23d July 1785.

Par. 40. Your Governor General laid before us on the 14th ultimo a letter which he had received from Major Palmer, dated the 30th May. The subject of it will be fully detailed in our next advices. Major Palmer communicated his purpose of leaving Lucknow soon; and the Governor General acquainted us, that he had appointed Lieutenant Colonel Gabriel Harper to be his agent at the court of Lucknow. The Governor General had formerly intimated to us individually his intention of allowing Major Palmer to resign his office at Lucknow, whenever he should think proper; and our wishes concurred with his own, that the succession to it should be vested pro tempore in Lieutenant Colonel Harper, a gentleman of experience and ability, respected for the integrity of his character, and not only esteemed by the Vizier, but the express object of his Excellency's request, that he should succeed Major Palmer. There were further reasons, which will be hereafter communicated to your Honourable Court, for this selection of Lieutenant Colonel Harper for the trust delegated to him. The agreement made by your late Governor General with the Nabob Vizier, and yet in force, precluded the appointment of a public minister from this government at Lucknow. The allowances to Lieutenant Colonel Harper are limited to those to which Major Palmer's were lately reduced; vizt Sonat Rs 2,988 per mensem.

41. The balance due to the Company from the Nabob Vizier amounted, on the 31st of May last, to Fyzabad 16 fun sicca rupees 34,28,396. 0. 1.

42. An arrangement has been made for the liquidation of your debt to Gopaul Doss Saw, and Kissen Chund, contracted by the Resident at the Vizier's court in 1783, and now amounting to current rupees 2,93,923. 11. 8.

## EXTRACT of Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 31st July 1785.

Par. 64. Towards the end of March last, some conversation passed between your Governor General and Rajah Govind Ram, the Vakeel of the Nabob Vizier at this presidency, in which the Governor General suggested to him his wish that the Vizier might be punctual in the payment of his kists, and urged the necessity of his being so, as well as the possible consequences of the reverse; and he intimated also the pleasure he would receive, if a voluntary offer were made by the Vizier to defray the charge of your detachment under Colonel Sir John Cumming. The particulars of this conversation appear on our proceedings of the 26th of April, as written by Rajah Govind Ram to the Vizier and his ministers, and laid before the Board by your Governor General, who desired them from the Vakeel, in consequence of his having received letters from the Nabob and Major Palmer, in which it appears that some offence had been taken at their contents, and a charge implied against this government of breach of the engagements with his Excellency. The charge being without foundation, the circumstance is no otherwise deserving of serious notice, than that it may lead to a supposition in others, which Major Palmer appears to have entertained, that your Governor General had been deficient in fairness of conduct to the Nabob Vizier, which we are very sure was very far from his intention; and as it appears to have been the primary cause which influenced an alteration that has lately taken place in the management of your interests at the court of Lucknow.

65. A second letter was received by your Governor General from Major Palmer, in which he takes notice of the Governor's answer to the Vizier's letter, alluded to in the foregoing paragraph, and offers his remarks on it with freedom; perhaps it may appear to you with a freedom not totally warranted by his relation to the service and to this government; certainly not by the occasion. Major Palmer's observations were prefatory to a repetition of the wish he had before expressed, to be relieved from his station whenever the Governor General should think that his services might be dispensed with. He observed, that he had not declared his wish to be removed at this particular time, nor was it his intention to have desired leave to retire until the arrangements formed by Mr. Hastings had terminated; that it was, however, perfectly agreeable to him to retire now: and, in consequence of the Governor General's desire, he had sent for Colonel Harper, and acquainted him with his intention to leave Lucknow as soon as he was in a situation to travel, and could adjust some necessary affairs,

Par. 66. Your Governor General had formerly intimated to us, individually, his intention to allow Major Palmer to resign his office at Lucknow, whenever he should think proper; and our wishes concurred with his, that the succession to it should be vested in Lieutenant Colonel Harper, a gentleman of experience and abilities, respected for the integrity of his character, and esteemed by the Nabob Vizier and the principal men in his court.

We were informed, on the 14th ultimo, that your Governor General had accordingly appointed Lieutenant Colonel Harper his agent at the court of Lucknow.

67. Your Governor General was further guided in his nomination of Lieutenant Colonel Harper to this trust, by the approbation which we had given to a military plan for the security of the Vizier's country, which Colonel Harper submitted to us individually before he went to the upper provinces; and to support which, the office of agent from the Governor General would give him particular influence, and the best opportunities of affording it public effect.

68. The Governor General availed himself of the occasion that offered, on his announcing to us the appointment of Lieutenant Colonel Harper, to testify to the Board, and to your Honourable Court, what he thought due to the merits of an officer who was not recommended to nor connected with him; but whom, upon his former services to the Company, and the well-known satisfaction which his conduct gave to the Nabob of Oude, in the time of the late Soujah ul Dowlah, he had thought it his duty to select for this trust, in preference to others who had claims to his support, and were nearly interested in the success of his administration. He was further induced to this choice, as it was most consistent with the spirit of the agreement that was made by Mr. Hastings with the Vizier in 1784; and because his Excellency has made it his particular request, that, if Major Palmer left Lucknow, Colonel Harper should be his successor.

69. We entertain an high opinion of Lieutenant Colonel Harper, and have an entire confidence in his ability and integrity. We approved of the principle on which the Governor General had nominated this gentleman to be his agent at Lucknow; and we are hopeful that the other object, which we had in contemplation for Colonel Harper, will be forwarded by this appointment. We wait your orders for the regulation of affairs in the Vizier's country.

71. We have the honour to refer you to our consultation of April 5, for an account shewing the amount of the Nabob Vizier's debt to the Company, at the end of February 1784, and how far it has been increased or diminished, according to the latest information received by your Accountant General on the 16th February 1785.

72. Your Accountant General having informed us that the sums to be charged to the account of, and received from, his Excellency the Vizier, for the expence of the troops serving in his dominions, must very materially affect the estimate of the probable resources and disbursements of this government, and requested that we would inform him of the amount at which he might estimate those for the year 1785-6, if those at which they were estimated for 1784-5 might not be adopted on forming the estimate of the ensuing year of account—we were of opinion that there could be no doubt of the propriety of debiting the Nabob Vizier, for the year 1785-6, for the brigade at Cawnpore and the regiment at Lucknow; though there might be some, with respect to the propriety of debiting his Excellency for the expence of the detachment under Colonel Sir John Cumming for that year, if, from appearances in the upper provinces, there was not a likelihood that the services of the detachment would be required. But as there was a probability of commotions, and as the Vizier had agreed to admit the charge of the detachment upon himself while a necessity existed for it, we resolved that it should be entered in the estimate accordingly.

73. On the return of your troops from the western side of India, the two rossalahs of horse that served with it were attached to the station of Cawnpore and Futtly Ghurr; and we resolved, on the 27th February 1784, that an addition should be made to the Nabob's subsidy for these troops. But, as nothing further decisive had passed upon the subject, your Governor General wrote to the Vizier for his permission to debit his Excellency for three rossalahs, while they had been in his country, and to continue the same while they should remain in it: It was observed that this corps was the only corps of cavalry in the service of the Company, and might be essentially useful in his Excellency's dominions. A similar request was also made with respect to the Company of chasseurs ordered from Chunargur to Cawnpore.

74. The Nabob Vizier has complied with these applications, but desired that the amounts may be charged to him in the ensuing, not the present year. They will be charged accordingly, with other sums disbursed on his Excellency's account, for military services performed in his country.

75. Captain Norman Macleod having applied to us for his pay, and the disbursements that he made while he had the charge of a body guard of your late Resident at Lucknow, we sent orders to the Accountant at that station to discharge the amount which was justly due to Capt. Macleod, and to pass the same to the debit of the Vizier.

Monnawar

Monnawar Dofs, the son and vackeel of Gopaul Dofs, having repeatedly desired payment of the amount borrowed from his father's house at Lucknow, on the Company's account, in the year 1783, by your late Resident, we gave orders to our Secretary, assisted by the Accomptant General and Sub-Treasurer, to propose the best and easiest mode of liquidating the debt to Gopaul Dofs, at Calcutta and Benares; observing, that the Company were not to be at a charge preferred by Monnawar Dofs for lo's on exchange.

77. These gentlemen, in consequence, reported to us, that as they found by the representation which had been transmitted by the Accomptant at Lucknow, under date the 20th March, that the whole of your funds at that place, not absolutely necessary for the payment of your troops in the Vizier's dominions, were actually engaged to be remitted to Calcutta and Surat—and as the premium at which these were engaged to be remitted to Calcutta, and the loss of interest by the distance of time at which they were payable after date, were matters for which a compensation would be required, the just amount of which your Secretary and Accomptant General and Sub-Treasurer were unable to determine with any degree of accuracy—they were of opinion, that the Resident at Benares should be directed to remit to Lucknow whatever balance might remain in his hands from time to time, until the debt to Gopaul Dofs should be completely paid, making the remittances as expeditiously as possible, and upon terms most advantageous to your interests; and that orders should be sent to the Accomptant at Lucknow, to keep the Resident at Benares well informed of the amount due on this claim. Their motives for this recommendation appear on our proceedings of the 12th May.

78. We ordered that a statement of Gopaul Dofs's claim, calculated to the end of August next, should be sent to the Resident at Benares, and to the Accomptant at Lucknow; and that the Resident at Benares should remit to the Accomptant at Lucknow, at the most reasonable rates of exchange, whatever balance may remain in his hands, from time to time, until all that is required, with the aid of the under-mentioned bills from Lucknow, to discharge the debt to Gopaul Dofs, shall have been paid off.—We directed also, that the Accomptant at Lucknow should make over to Gopaul Dofs, or his order, the bills for ten lacks, that are to be granted on Calcutta, in the month of Behawdeen, by his Excellency the Vizier, if Gopaul Dofs should be willing to accept the same; with an allowance too of three per cent. for the loss of interest that will accrue by their not being payable in Calcutta until 90 days after date.

79. The amount of Gopaul Dofs's claims amounts to the sum of Lucknow sicca rupees 13,61,055. 7. 6. exclusive of interest.

80. When this and other loans were taken up from the bankers, the Lucknow Haley sicca rupees were valued in account at 5. 9. 3. per cent. below Fyzabad 16 sun ficas; but as, in the month of May 1784, your late Governor General directed that the Lucknow Haley ficas should be valued in account as equal to Fyzabad 16 sun ficas, your Accomptant General acquainted us, that, if of these the same sum was to be charged in the Lucknow accounts as was credited for them in Haley ficas, there would be a difference of Fyzabad 16 sun ficas 71,910 2. 7. between the sum for which the Lucknow treasury accounts were debited for the receipts of the principal of this loan, and that which they would be credited for the re-payment of it; and, as these were valued upon the Honourable Company's general books at 11 per cent. above current, the loss which would appear upon this loan would be current rupees 79,820. 4. 6. We were of opinion that this loss should be borne by the Nabob Vizier; and we accordingly directed the Accomptant at Lucknow to debit his Excellency's account with it, after having apprized him of our wishes on this subject.

81. The attornies of Major James Brown having laid before us sundry bills of disbursements made by that gentleman, prior to the 1st February 1785, during his deputation to the court of Delhi, and desired the discharge of them, we gave directions for passing the same; and, as the expence had been incurred before the departure of Mr. Hastings from Bengal, we ordered that it should be placed to the account of Durbar charges, incurred during the administration of the late Governor General.

82. No alteration having appeared in the amount charged to have been paid to Mirza Saudet Ally, by the Resident at Benares, for the stipend assigned to him by his Excellency the Vizier, correspondent to that which took place in the Lucknow accounts, from the 31st August 1784, when the sum charged monthly to the debit of his Excellency's account was reduced from Rs 25,000, to Rs 1,666. 10 8. in consequence of an arrangement made by the late Governor General in the upper provinces—the Resident of Benares was directed to acquaint the Board with the instructions which he received from Mr. Hastings on this subject; and at the same time to restrict the future payment of Saudet Ally's stipend in its reduced amount.

83. The

83. The Resident acquainting us that he had received no instructions on this subject from the late Governor General, the circumstances have been stated to the Vizier, who has been informed that the overpayment made to Saudit Ally, Sicca Rs 66,666. 10. 8. was not, in the Board's opinion, imputable to them; since we did not know of its existence in proper time, and had actually stopped it as soon as we were informed of its continuance: And the Vizier was requested to allow the amount to be charged to his Excellency's debit.

84. The Vizier's debit to the Company amounted, at the end of last month, to Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca Rupees 25,81,910. 9. —

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*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 13th January, 1785.*

THE following minute having been written for some time since, and communicated privately to the members of the Board, the Governor General desires that it may be entered on the minutes of the 4th instant, as well as on these, that being the day on which it underwent their Inspection.

Agreed to, and ordered that the Secretary do enter the same accordingly.

The Governor General.

4th January 1785.

The period is now arrived in which I must either verify the declaration which I have made and repeated to the Court of Directors, of my intention to relinquish the service, or suspend the execution of it, if compelled to it on the grounds of superior obligation. These I shall now state, and submit my destiny to the justice and generosity of my colleagues in the administration. In making this appeal, I should be sorry to have it ascribed to any distrust in the issue, having evinced the contrary by making the declaration to which I have above alluded, without any such reserve or qualification, but I do it in performance of a solemn engagement, and with a conviction, that the security of a valuable portion of the Company's immediate and pecuniary interests indispensably require it.

The Board will permit me to remind them, that on the 31st December 1783 they passed an unanimous resolution, agreeing and declaring, that "the offer made by the Nabob Vizier, and his minister, to give the security of bankers of known credit and responsibility for the payment of the balance due to the Company, and for the current demands of that year, should be accepted, with the condition annexed, of the recall of Mr. Bristow and Mr. Cowper, the Governor General consenting to be especially answerable for the propriety of the measure;" and that in consequence of the Board's having agreed that the Governor General should proceed to Lucknow, for the purpose of assisting the Nabob Vizier in the means of discharging his engagements to the Company, and the regulation of his government, they, on the 17th February last, resolved, "That the Governor General should be, and he was thereby invested with full power and authority to concert and adjust, with the Nabob Vizier, the means of discharging his engagements to the Company; of restoring and securing the peace, safety, and order of his Government; and of promoting the improvement of his revenue; and to support the Nabob Vizier with the authority of this government, in as full and ample manner as the Board could empower him by an act of parliament of Great Britain, or by any of the orders of the Honourable Court of Directors; and to take all such measures as he should think necessary for the accomplishment of these ends."

I undertook the service at a time, and under circumstances, which to a mind liable to despond, would have suggested unsurmountable difficulties: These I have minutely stated in my correspondence with the Board; and my late report of the 20th September states in what manner I have executed the trust which I had undertaken.

The engagements which I have obtained from the Nabob Vizier cease with the close of the next Fustilee year, or in September next, but the means of fulfilling them depend upon the uncharged and unmolested substance of many internal arrangements, which are mutually connected by a series of five years from their formation, and that on the absolute forbearance of this government from all present interference in his authority, and especially in the controul and administration of his revenues.

When I was on the eve of parting from him, I deemed it consistent with the sincerity of my own character, and necessary to prevent the consequences of too abrupt an information, whenever he might receive it, of the apparent deprivation of my support, to acquaint him with the probable approach of my removal from the service, and at the same time I promised him that I would on no account make it in my own act, without previously obtaining from the Board their promise of an entire and punctual adherence to the engagements which I had made with him on my own part individually, and on the behalf of the Board, in virtue of their existing engagements with me, which are contained in the resolution to which I have appealed in the introduction of this minute. The same assurance I gave also to his ministers, I soon after departed, leaving my Secretary, Major Palmer, as my personal representative and agent with the Nabob Vizier, both for the encouragement of the Nabob and his ministers, and for the means of urging them to the faithful discharge of their stipulated payments, and Mr. Wombwell, the proper officer, in charge of the receipts.

In conformity to the above engagements, I now make it my earnest request to the Board, that they will be pleased to record their resolution to abide by the arrangements which I have made, and to notify the same for the satisfaction and assurance of the Nabob Vizier, and his ministers, by an official letter to the Nabob Vizier from my eventual successor, with a promise that no deviation shall be made from the said arrangements, nor any person deputed to reside at his court, but at his own spontaneous inclination, or any authority exercised within the limits of his dominion, by the appointment and permission of the Board, except such as shall be required by the Nabob himself, for the military officers stationed for his defence, and the protection of his country until the conclusion of the present Fushulle year, or until the orders of the Court of Directors shall be received, in consequence of the references which have been made to them, if such orders shall either enjoin or authorize a different conduct.

I presume that this requisition is consonant with the strictest of legal propriety, as the first delegation of the trust made to me in December last extends in its full force, as a reciprocal obligation, to the period which I have prescribed; and as the act of a majority of the Board, which followed it from its legal obligation, on the whole necessarily includes and involves every engagement contracted under it and conformable to it, with the same force of an equal and permanent obligation.

Before I conclude, I desire to obviate every possible misconception of my object in the requisition which I have made. I do not desire the Board, nor the members of it, individually, to approve what I have done; I only desire them to ratify what I have done under a constitutional and legal authority, by their constitutional and legal acquiescence and confirmation of it; knowing that without it the Nabob Vizier, and his ministers, who are ignorant of the powers of the Board, and of the principles which give stability to its decided acts, which conclude that all the engagements contracted with them, by the only ostensible member of our government with whom by the forms of it they are connected, will be dissolved on his removal from it: I make the proposal with an anxiety natural to the importance of its issue, in the hope that it will prove the last act of my public life, and the last test which I shall exact from the Board of that spirit of mutual conciliation which no difference of opinion has yet been able wholly to extinguish, and which it is my most earnest wish to preserve, whether we are to be still longer united in the same service, or whether we are to part, in our public capacities, for ever.

The following minute is delivered by Mr. Macpherson and Mr. Stables:

We have considered the very important and solemn proposition which the Governor General has made to the Board: The very earnest manner in which he has called upon us, as his colleagues in the administration, and the great anxiety which he has expressed for the issue of our determination, oblige us to confine our sentiments, on the present occasion, to a close and explicit answer to the question which he has been pleased to propose.

The question itself, as a proposition for our adoption, is stated in full and clear terms: nor need we repeat the words. It is a proposition founded upon specific acts of this government which have already taken place, and, as members of the government, we have already committed our sanction in its favour, by those legal obligations which bind every member of the administration to the acts of a decided majority, and that constitutional acquiescence in the arrangements concluded between the Governor General and the Nabob Vizier and his ministers, and to which our ratification is required, on the liberal principal which the Governor General has specified.

We

"We are sensible of the just and public grounds upon which it is proper and necessary that the Nabob Vizier should be assured that arrangements concluded with him for the discharge of his debt to the Company, and the future regulation and encrease of his revenues, should remain permanent and binding upon the Company's representatives, independant of the continuance in office of the Governor General for the time, who had the delegated powers of the government to conclude those arrangements; we are therefore willing and ready to adopt the mode which the Governor General has proposed for leaving the mind of the Vizier, as well as his ministers, from all apprehension or uneasiness upon this subject.

We are confident, at the same time, that the Governor General will, of his own accord, use his utmost influence to convince the Vizier and his ministers of the necessity of a punctual performance of their engagements, so as to preclude this government from all interference in the controul and administration of his Excellency's revenues. Having acceded in so explicit a manner to the Governor General's proposal, and having pledged our support of arrangements; for the successful issue of which to the public, it is natural for the Governor General to carry an anxiety beyond the period he may wish to prescribe to his own administration in this country; we further beg leave to assure him, that whether we are to be longer united with him in the public service, or are soon to separate, it is our earnest wish to preserve unextinguished, and improve, that spirit of conciliation which is equally dictated by our own sense of public duty and our personal respect for the Governor General.

(Signed) { JOHN MACPHERSON.  
                  { JOHN STABLES.

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*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 14th January, 1785.*

THE Governor General requests the decision of the Board on a proposition which he some time since submitted to their consideration; namely, that if it shall be their resolution, on the arrival of the fox, which it has been supposed may contain some orders respecting the force to be kept up in the provinces dependent on the Nabob of Owd, to retain the detachment now commanded by Colonel Sir John Cummings in its present station at Futty Ghur, or in any other part of the Nabob's dominions, the payment of his expences be not demanded from the Nabob Vizier during the course of this year, but the subject be generally referred to the Honourable Court of Directors, and a due time allowed for their answer and decision thereon to be received, for the regulation of that claim. The Governor General is the more anxious to receive the determination of the Board on the question depending, because he conceives it to be immediately connected with the object of his minute of the 4th instant; for if the charge of that detachment, which has been estimated at twenty-two lacks and a half, but which will more probably amount to twenty-five lacks, shall be exacted from the Nabob Vizier in the course of the present year, it will not only be a breach of the engagements made with him by the Governor General, but exceed by the amount, whatever it may be, his ability to pay it, and the demand will produce the effect of a total abolition of the engagements now subsisting with the Nabob Vizier.

Respecting the question of withdrawing or continuing the corps, the Governor General informs the Board, that the Nabob Vizier has provided five battalions of sepoys to replace Col. Cumming's detachment. These have been lately completed, and properly equipped for the service, under the direction of a very able officer, whom the Governor General left with the Nabob for that purpose, and for attendance on the Prince, with whom they are at present stationed as his guard; they are to attend the Prince as far as Futty Ghur, their destined station, and no further, as the Nabob cannot provide funds for raising an equivalent recruit to supply their place. This officer is Captain Frith. The Governor General did not mention his appointment to the Board in his former report relating to the Prince, because the Nabob Vizier had at that time signified his intention of placing the corps under the command of a native officer, and the Governor General of course withdrawn his recommendation of Captain Frith. The Nabob has since changed his intention.

Now, if it be the decided opinion of the Board that the detachment be continued in its station for another year, the Governor General conceives that it will afford a considerable saving to the Nabob Vizier, to apprise him of it, that he may disband the corps which he had appointed for its relief; and what is a saving to the Nabob will be eventually an aid to the Company. But if the Board shall either suspend their opinion, or shall adopt the conciliatory expedient of ordering the relief to take effect in the month of April or May next, beyond which the approaching season

of the rains will preclude the necessity of any defence during their continuance; and it may be easily remanded to the same station, if there should be a call for it after that period; in either of these cases the Nabob should be informed of the Board's intention, that he may keep the same corps in readiness for its eventual destination. The Governor General offers these intimations merely in advice, deeming it improper, in his present situation, to propose them as formal questions.

The only question in which he requests the decision of the Board, is that to which he has referred in the first part of his minute, viz. that no part of the subsidy or charge of Colonel Sir John Cumming's detachment be exacted from the Nabob Vizier during the course of this year, but that his engagement be allowed to stand at 1,05,00,000 rupees, the sum fixed by his engagement concluded with and ratified by the Governor General.

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

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Mr. Macpherson.

The sum agreed between the Governor General and the Nabob Vizier to be discharged within the Full year, is all that can be exacted from the Vizier within that period. I agree that the expence of Sir John Cumming's detachment be submitted, as was suggested in a former minute of the Governor General's, and more particularly in the preceding minute, to the determination of the Court of Directors. But I think that the Vizier should be immediately informed that the Board think the expence of his new levies an unnecessary expence, and that Sir John Cumming's detachment will, while it remains in his dominions, render those new battalions unnecessary.

The Governor General is requested to write to his Excellency the Vizier accordingly.

(Signed) J. M.P.

Agreed.

J. S.

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*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 8th March, 1785.*

THE Governor General lays before the Board the following letters which he has received from Major Palmer; the last inclosing a letter from his Royal Highness the Shahzada Mirza Jewan Buckt.

Lucknow, 13th February 1785.

Dear Sir,

I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 1st instant, and am deeply impressed with a sense of the liberal and generous terms upon which you require my continuance at Lucknow, for the purposes of assisting in the arrangements established by Mr. Hastings between the Company and the Vizier, and of the transactions of your Government.

It is with the greatest sincerity that I declare to you, my first wish is to retire from public business, not from distrust of your confidence and support, but for reasons which are purely of personal consideration to myself; yet I am too conscious of my obligations to the Company, to my most worthy and respected patron and friend, Mr. Hastings, and to the manner in which you have engaged my services, to hesitate a moment in making any sacrifice of my ease or convenience, whilst you and he are partially disposed to believe it may contribute to the success of public affairs, and to the credit of your administration. These will be the first objects of my attention, so long as you are pleased to honour me with the execution of your commands. I have no views, nor will I entertain any that can come into competition with them; and you may be assured, that I will serve you with the same zeal and fidelity with which I have served Mr. Hastings for near eleven years.

I am

I am persuaded that it cannot be difficult for you to find, amongst your particular and most deserving friends, a gentleman with every requisite to conciliate the confidence and esteem of the Vizier and his servants, and with abilities far superior to mine to conduct the affairs of your Government at this durbar; and whenever you shall be inclined to send here a person of this description, I will most cheerfully and cordially make way for him, and introduce him upon the most advantageous footing in my power.

The Vizier and his ministers place a firm reliance upon the assurances which Mr. Hastings has given them of your friendly disposition towards them, and of your determination to abide by the engagements which he has entered into. Their confidence will be strengthened and confirmed by your own letters, and the daily proofs which the course of business will afford.

The Shah Zada and the Vizier are hourly expected. I shall have the honour to present your letters to them on their arrival; and will omit no means nor opportunity of exciting in their minds that entire confidence and esteem which is so necessary to the public welfare, and for your mutual personal satisfaction. I have not the smallest doubt of success in this endeavour.

I have the pleasure to acquaint you, that there is not the least appearance of failure in the Vizier's pecuniary engagements to the Company. The crops are remarkably fine, and no obstruction has happened, or is likely to happen in the collections. It shall be my particular care to guard against every circumstance which may tend to disappoint the well-grounded hope I entertain upon this subject.

The late predatory incursion of the Seiks has been more discreditable than injurious to the Vizier's government; there has certainly been neglect in the Aumil of Rohilcund, as the Vizier pays for a force in that country more than adequate to its protection against such a despicable banditti as the Seiks, and the ghauts should have been properly guarded as soon as the rivers became fordable. The depredations made by these freebooters falls upon individuals, and can in no shape affect the public revenues. They retreated across the Ganges on the first appearance of the Vizier's troops, and although they are now assembled to the number, as is reported, of 20,000, on the western shore of the Ganges, I have not the least apprehension of their making another attempt to penetrate into the Vizier's dominions, as Sir John Cumming detached two regiments on the 2d instant to Anoopshire, and was to follow with his whole force on the 12th.

Repeated and uniform accounts have been received through the public news-papers, and private intelligence, of encouragement given to this attack upon the Vizier's possessions by Mahajee Scindia, and of his having engaged to support it by a Mahratta force. I did not give implicit credit to these reports, but the possibility of their being true was sufficient cause for not neglecting them. I therefore recommend it to the Vizier to require the actual march of the Fatty Ghur detachment, and the preparation for it of the brigade at Cawnpore. The latter is now suspended as unnecessary, since Sir John Cumming is in the field, and Scindia has solemnly disavowed to Mr. Anderson having excited the Seiks to ravage the Vizier's country.

The acting minister of the Vizier having some time since intimated to me, that the conduct of Ahma's Ally Cawn wore the appearance of discontent, and of a design to give disturbance to the affairs of Government, I requested the latter to come to Lucknow, with which he immediately complied. I made the departure of Mr. Hastings, and my desire to give him assurances of your kindness and protection, the pretext for desiring to see him; and whilst he was with me I found means to ascertain his real disposition and intentions, which I have the satisfaction to assure you are entirely dutiful towards his master, and full of confidence in and attachment to the Company's Government. I discovered that he had entertained some distrust of Hyder Beg Cawn, on account of his having detached two of his principal dependants from their connections with him, at a time when it was suspected that he intended to retire from the Vizier's dominions; but I found it easy to remove this misunderstanding, and to restore confidence and cordiality between them, which they have engaged to preserve, and to apply their utmost exertions in their respective stations for the prosperity of the Vizier's affairs, and of those of the Company, as connected with them.

I hope that this concise relation will suffice to give you a general view of the present situation of the Vizier's most material concerns. I shall not fail to inform you regularly of all future transactions as they occur.

I have the honour to be,

with perfect respect and attachment,

Dear Sir,

Your most obedient and

faithful humble servant,

(Signed)

WM. PALMER.

Dear Sir,

Lucknow, 21 Feb. 1785.

I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 9th instant, with the enclosures of one for Hyder Beg Cawn, and one for Almas Ally Cawn, and duplicates of your former letters to these persons, and to Husein Rezza Cawn.

Herewith I have the pleasure to transmit to you answers from the Nabob Vizier and his two principal ministers to your first letters: I am acquainted with their contents, although I had no share in their composition. I can assure you, that they contain the genuine and unmixed sentiments of the writers; and, for this reason, I am persuaded will afford your real satisfaction. I have the pleasure further to assure you, from the opportunity of daily personal observation, that the Shah Zaada, the Vizier, and his ministers, entertain the most entire confidence in your justice and friendly intentions towards them; and that no uneasiness remains upon their minds, but what arises from their personal attachment and esteem for Mr. Hastings.

I am willing to believe that you will consider the mention which is made of me in these letters, as a proof that I had no part in dictating them. I own that my vanity is gratified by the favourable opinions expressed of me; yet a sense of delicacy would induce me to desire they might be suppressed, if it had not occurred to me that they might serve as an argument in support of the honour which you have done me to continue me in the charge of the affairs of your Government at this Durbar.

The Shah Zaada is preparing his answer. Almas is at a distance; but I expect his also in a day or two.

The enclosed order for two hundred and two gold mohurs is the accustomed nazurs of congratulation from the ministers Husein Rezza Cawn and Hyder Beg Cawn.

As your letter informs me that Mr. Hastings had finally taken his departure, I beg leave in this place to offer you my sincere congratulations on your accession to the honourable and important station which he has resigned, and my warmest wishes that your administration may be invariably prosperous.

In my letter of the 13th instant I had the honour to acquaint you with the state of the most material concerns of the Vizier's Government. The incursion of the Seiks was sudden and predatory, they retired on the first appearance of the Vizier's troops, without any considerable booty, nor have they since attempted to disturb the Vizier's dominions; on the contrary, the chief who is at this time with a body of those people near the Vizier's frontier, on the western side of the Ganges, has written to the Aumil of Rohilcund, that the late incursion was an act unauthorized by and offensive to their State. The greatest part of these freebooters have retreated across the Jumna, on the approach of Lieutenant Colonel Knudson's detachment, and those who remain in the Doab will avoid giving him any pretext for attacking them; their present purpose is to levy their tribute upon the country of the late Zaabita Cawn.

In this situation of security from their further ravages, the Vizier has recommended it to Colonel Sir John Cumming to return to Futty Ghur, with the principal part of his force, leaving Lieutenant Colonel Knudson, with two regiments, at Anoopshire, until the rise of the river shall make the passage of the enemy impracticable, which will be early in the month of April.

The minister and Almas Ally Cawn continue on terms of entire cordiality and confidence. I have not the smallest apprehension that their good understanding will be interrupted, since you have given them both such encouragement to rely upon your protection and support, whilst they discharge their respective duties for the advantage of both Governments: and as they know how essentially their own honours and interests depend upon their zeal and fidelity, there can be no doubt of their best exertions.

I advised Mr. Hastings on the 22d ultimo, of the suspicions which the minister entertained of Almas Ally Cawn; but as I considered the exceptionable part of his conduct as calculated merely to obtain some advantage or indulgence in his farms, I told the Governor that I would not alarm Administration until I had proofs to justify the apprehension of serious danger. The truth is, that Almas Ally Cawn has been made too powerful and opulent a subject, and certainly would be too much for the Vizier's government, if he was not restrained by its connection with ours: but as matters are now circumstanced, his defection would be attended with many ill consequences, and it cannot be denied that his opulence is productive of some good ones. His punctuality in  
payments

payment may be relied on ; and he frequently assists Government with the advance of very considerable sums in its exigencies. He knows that he can no where obtain such a degree of security for his person and property as he finds in his present situation ; it must therefore be very unjust and rigorous treatment that will induce him to desert it ; and so long as he continues it, proper management will turn it to the benefit of the State.

There can be no doubt that all the transactions between your Government, the Shah, and Mahajee Scindia, might be managed by a single agent : but I am almost certain that these two powers would not negotiate confidently with the same person. The Shah is far from being satisfied with the exercise of the authority and influence which Scindia has acquired over his affairs, and will struggle to free himself from his controul, whenever he thinks there is a prospect of changing it for another that will leave him a greater choice of action. He will never lose sight of your government, as his best resource against the injuries and indignities which are offered to him by those who assume the direction of his affairs ; and as a time may come when it shall be thought as politic and expedient, as it may be thought just and honourable, to support the house of Timur, and as at all times Shah Allum will not fail to apply to you when he feels his situation too irksome for his patience, it will perhaps be necessary to have an express agent from your Government to reside with him for the purpose of confidential communication, which it would be difficult to conduct without one. I find also, that at this time the residence of an agent in the service of the Company is useful to the Vizier ; and that he is desirous a separate agent should remain with the Shah until his return to Delhi, when it will be clearly known whether his Majesty is determined to continue the influence and authority of Scindia and the Mahratta State, or is disposed to change it. In the former case, an agent from you will not only be useless, but may be pernicious, whilst your Government, and that of the Mahrattas, continue in their present relative situation.

These reasons against giving any intimation to Major Browne of your sentiments upon this subject, have occurred to me upon a short reflection, but your judgment and information are so superior to mine, that I cannot expect my arguments should be conclusive ; I offer them as my excuse for not hinting, until I hear from you again, any thing upon the subject to Major Browne.

Left the desire which is expressed in the Vizier's letter to you, of my continuing here, should be any restraint upon your inclination, at any time hereafter, to place another gentleman in my station, the smallest hint from you shall suffice to make the change my own act ; and I sincerely declare, that whenever you may think proper it shall take place, I shall have a pride and satisfaction in the opportunity of evincing the extent of my wishes to deserve the confidence which you have reposed in me, and the regard which you have expressed for me.

I shall dispatch, by the public dawk bearers, to-morrow, and successively, some baskets of fruits, of which Hyder Beg Cawn requests your acceptance.

I have the honour to be,

with the truest attachment and respect,

Dear Sir,

Your most obedient,

and faithful humble servant,

(Signed)

WM. PALMER.

Dear Sir,

Lucknow, 24th February, 1785.

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith, a letter from the Shah Zaada, in answer to yours to him ; and I have the satisfaction to assure you, that he is disposed to conduct himself entirely by the wishes and advice of your Government, and to place the firmest reliance upon your personal kindness and friendship.

The Prince and the Vizier live in perfect harmony ; and the former appears to be very happy and contented with his present situation.

The

The Seiks have entirely evacuated the frontiers of the Vizier's dominions, and every thing within them is in a state of tranquillity, without the least appearance of further disturbance or obstruction in the collections.

I have the honour to be, with perfect attachment and respect,

Dear Sir,

Your most obedient,  
and faithful humble servant,

WM. PALMER.

From the Prince: Received 7th March, 1785.

Your letter has been received, in which you write that you are ready and active, from your heart and soul, in obedience and fidelity to the presence, and that at all times, and in all situations, you consider your allegiance as your greatest happiness; and that you are hopeful of the same favour and protection from the Presence, as were experienced by the late Governor General. Before this I had been convinced of your fidelity and attachment to me; and now, from the representation of Major Palmer, and from the receipt of your arzee, I have been a hundred-fold more inclined towards you. The proofs of obedience in the late Governor General, and his labour and attention to forward my concerns, are well known to you, and that he was even desirous of returning to this quarter, to shew his attachment to the Presence, he must have acquainted you; as it has been necessary for him to depart for Europe, the settled allegiance which he had in his heart will, by the blessing of God, shew itself in your conduct. I am convinced of and depend firmly upon your attachment, and whatever favour and protection were shewn from the Presence to the late Governor General, will be doubled towards you. Know me to be beyond measure favourable, and well inclined to you; write constantly the accounts of your situation.

Read the following letters to the Governor General, from his Excellency the Nabob Vizier, and the Nabobs Hussein Reza Cawn and Hyder Beg Cawn:

From the Vizier: Received 3d March 1785.

Your friendly letter, containing the proofs of your friendship and affection, and full of words of friendship, and letters of kindness, arrived and gladdened me with all the particulars of your sincerity and affection.

The connection and alliance which existed between the Company, the Governor General, Mr. Hastings, and the gentlemen of the Council, and the deceased Dawab during his life, need not be mentioned. By the blessing of God, the strength of this mutual affection is every day encreasing. Mr. Hastings was at all times ready to support the connection of friendship, to improve the affairs of the Company, to add benefits and advantages, and stability to the concerns of my government, and to preserve the credit and satisfaction of my ministers, who are faithful servants to both parties; and when he came to Lucknow, he settled an agreement with them for the payment of the debt to the Company, and for the good management of all my concerns. These circumstances are all known to you; and as you, out of regard to the sincere and close friendship, in conformity to the customs and rules of the English, who never deviate from their engagements, have determined to preserve it, and having from your friendship approved those plans are inclined to support between yourself and me the agreement made by the Governor General, Mr. Hastings; you have by this auspicious news made me happy and easy on all accounts. This matter was fully explained to the utmost satisfaction of my heart, by the letters of the Governor General, Mr. Hastings, and the representations of Major Palmer. I am now from your letter fully convinced that you will maintain that agreement, which is full of advantages to both sides; and Major Palmer has given me the greatest reliance upon you. I am now, hopeful, from your friendship, that in the same degree as the Governor General, Mr. Hastings, supported and maintained the strength of friendship, and the stability of my concerns, and the credit and the honour of my ministers, you also will at present, from friendship, be inclined to maintain the connection of intimacy, the establishment and promotion of good management in my affairs, and the honour and credit of my ministers; and I will at all times be equally steadfast in my friendship with you, as with the Governor

vernor General, Mr. Hastings. By the blessing of God the debt to the Company will be properly settled under the plan fixed by Mr. Hastings with my ministers. I have been highly delighted that Major Palmer remains with me on the former footing, because Major Palmer is always labouring with me to confirm the mutual friendship. From his letters you will learn all particulars of my friendship and satisfaction.

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From Husein Reza Cawn: Received 3d March 1785.

Your gracious letter, containing the particulars of your friendship for his Highness the Vizier, and of your approval and resolution to maintain the plan which the Governor General, Mr. Hastings, settled before his departure from Lucknow, honoured me by its arrival in a happy hour. The letters of the Governor General, Mr. Hastings, assuring that you were determined to preserve the friendship of his Highness, and to shew favour to his ministers and dependants arrived, and the particulars were further and fully explained by Major Palmer, in consequence of your and the Governor General, Mr. Hastings's, instructions, and gave the highest satisfaction. As the labours of the Company's Chiefs have been always steadfast and firm in preserving the connection of friendship between the Company and his Highness the Vizier, and to this time its increase has, under the Governor General, Mr. Hastings's, management, been published to the world and its inhabitants: At present, that your letters are arrived, and that with the pen of friendship you promise to preserve the connection in the same state of strength and steadfastness, his Highness and all his wellwishers are made happy and grateful for your favours. I am an old servant, was from the beginning the faithful servant and wellwisher of both governments; and now also, being fixed in the same obedience and fidelity, and considering you the same as Mr. Hastings, and being ready with my life, under a reliance upon your favour and protection, I will perform the duties of attachment, and will in no instance be deficient in the execution of your orders. I am convinced, from your kindness and favour, that the same protection as Mr. Hastings gave to my credit and honour, and the same favours as he bestowed, you, who have now expressed your approbation of my conduct, will fulfil my hopes, by bestowing upon me the further particulars of my readiness and obedience; and my dependance upon, and confidence in, the favours and kindness which you have expressed will be explained to you by the letters of Major Palmer, who formerly, in consequence of Mr. Hastings's instructions, and now, in obedience to your orders, has given his Highness and us, and all his Highness's servants, the greatest confidence in you. I am hopeful that I may be honoured with frequent letters.

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From Hyder Beg Cawn; received 3d March 1785.

In the same words as the preceding.

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From Husein Reza Cawn; 8th March.

Your gracious letter, full of the particulars of favour and friendship, arrived, and increased my dignity; and I received the greatest pleasure and happiness from learning your favour and kindness, and your reliance upon the fidelity of me, whose sole desire is to experience your satisfaction and protection. By the blessing of God, and your good auspices, all matters will be completed in conformity to your wishes, and your great name and your dignity will be published in all Hindostan. The shadow of your favour and protection alone is necessary to produce that happy state of affairs which you wish; and the plan which the Nabob Governor General Amdul Dowla Bahadre settled in his own presence at Lucknow, will, through your protection, meet with a happy completion to your utmost satisfaction; at this time that from your knowledge of men, and your protection of your servants, you have written so full a consolation to us, and Major Palmer, in your name, has assured us of your favour and kindness, and your reliance upon us, not the smallest hope, doubt, or alarm, is left in the heart of his Highness and his servants. My present only wish is, that, employing myself from my heart and soul in the execution of your orders, and in obedience to your commands, I may preserve your satisfaction and pleasure, which I must conceive as my greatest happiness, in the same degree as I employed, obeyed, and executed the orders of the Nabob Governor General Amdul Dowlah; knowing my happiness to be concerned, I will from my heart and soul employ myself in fidelity and obedience to your commands,

mands, having and being at all times firm in my attachment to the Company's government, and that of his Highness, which are every way the same. I will now, through hopes of your favour and protection, be doubly so; for I, considering my own interests to depend upon my proper management of the concerns of both governments, and in your satisfaction, you will learn all these particulars from Major Palmer's letter.—The concern which, from your kindness, you mention to have felt on account of the Seiks disturbance in the neighbourhood of Bevelly is very flattering. The case is, that in the beginning, from the ghauts of the Ganges being fordable, the Seiks crossed the river, but immediately on the approach of the army of the Vizier, having no power to remain, they returned, and his Highness's army being again put under the command of Raja Jugnaut Bahadre, has in a proper manner disposed all the ghauts of the Ganges, and for a greater protection two regiments from the Company's forces at Futtu Gurr are marching towards Anoopshire; and his Highness's army having crossed at the ghauts, in the country of the King and Zabeta Khan, are going towards the river Jumna. The disturbances of the Seiks are now at an end, which I write for your information; and through your assistance, and the firmness of your favour and protection, all matters will be properly settled. I am, beyond dispute, full of attachment to both governments, and am hopeful that I may be gladdened by letters of favour and kindness. Further particulars of my attachment and ready fidelity to you, and my wishes to procure your satisfaction, will be fully known to you by Major Palmer's letters.

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*From Hyder Beg Cawn; Do.*

*In the same words.*

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*EXTRACT of Company's Letter to Bengal, dated 11th April 1785.*

Par. 63. **T**HE resolution you passed on the 31st December 1783 to withdraw the Residency from Lucknow, and to accept the offer made by the Vizier and his minister, to give the security of bankers of known credit and responsibility for the payment of the balance due to the Company, and the current kists, has our approbation; but by this approbation it is by no means our intention, either on the one hand to condemn the conduct of our Residents, or on the other to preclude ourselves from examining into the complaints exhibited against them by the Vizier and his minister. We approve likewise of the continuance of an Accomptant or Receiver at Lucknow, so long as any of the Company's troops shall be stationed in the Vizier's dominions, whose business must be confined to the sole purpose of adjusting and keeping the accounts between the Nabob and the Company, receiving the stipulated subsidy for those troops, and for appropriating the same in such manner as you shall think proper to direct.

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*LETTERS from Mr. Macpherson to the Nabob Vizier, Hyder Beg Khan, &c. and Fyzeulla Khan.*

*To the Nabob Vizier: Written 16th June 1785.*

**I**N consequence of Major Palmer's wishes to return from his present office of minister for the Governor General at your Highness's court, I have appointed Colonel Harper to his office.

In this appointment I have been guided by my knowledge of your Highness's high opinion of Colonel Harper, and the real attachment which he bears to your family, as well as the great esteem which your ministers and people bear to him from the experience which your late most illustrious father had of his attachment and honour.

Major Palmer will introduce Colonel Harper with the proper ceremony to your Highness. Permit me to add, that it was the wish of the late Governor General, though he had no personal friendship for Colonel Harper, that he should be minister on the part of my government at your Highness's court, after the departure of Major Palmer.

If I had it in my power to shew a stronger mark of my attachment to your Highness, and of my determination to maintain the engagements settled between us than I now do by the appointment

ment of Colonel Harper, I would gladly give such a proof of my friendship. In every matter you will find me the true friend of your family, and the just supporter of your rights. Colonel Harper will explain particulars.

As Major Palmer is speedily to return to Calcutta, I trust your Highness will mark his departure from your court with civility and favour.

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To Hyder Beg Khan, Hussen Reza Khan, and Almas Ally Khan, of the same tenor and date.

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To Akbar Ally Khan: Written 16th June 1785.

I have the pleasure to acquaint you, for the information of his Royal Highness, that Colonel Harper is appointed my minister for the transaction of the affairs of my government at the court of the Nabob Vizier.

Colonel Harper will receive a separate and higher commission from me as my minister at the court of his Royal Highness, for whom I could not testify greater loyalty and affection than by such appointment.

Please to inform his Royal Highness of my constant attachment to his person, and that it will be my greatest ambition to obtain for him solid proofs of the regard and friendship of the English. The Nabob Vizier cannot oblige me more than by his constant proofs of obedience and personal friendship to his Royal Highness; and this is fully known to the Nabob Vizier, to his ministers and people. Write to me frequent accounts of his Highness's welfare, and of your own prosperity.

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To Fyzeulla Khan.

In consequence of Major Palmer's wishes to retire from his present office of minister for the Governor General at the Nabob Vizier's court, I have appointed Colonel Harper to his office.

In this appointment I have been guided by my knowledge of his Highness's high opinion of Colonel Harper, and the real attachment which he bears to his Highness's family, as well as the great esteem which his Highness's ministers and people bear to him, from the experience which the late most illustrious Nabob had of his attachment and honour.

Permit me to add, that it was the wish of the late Governor General, though he had no personal friendship for Colonel Harper, that he should be minister on the part of my government at his Highness's court, after the departure of Major Palmer.

Considering me to be your true friend, write frequently, and let all your letters, and every information respecting your concerns, be forwarded to me through the Colonel, to whom I refer you for particulars.

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To Muzuffer Jung, of Furruckabad.

Of the same tenor and date, except the last paragraph, which is as follows:

In consequence of your friendship for the Company, I have given you this information; and request that, considering me to be your true friend, you will constantly write me the news of your health.

EXTRACT

*EXTRACT of Court's Letter to Bengal, dated 21st September 1785.*

Para. 6. **I**N your letter of the 17th January last you have submitted the following question to our determination, viz. "Whether the Company or the Vizier shall be charged with the expence of the detachment commanded by Sir John Cummings;" and we have taken an early opportunity of communicating to you our directions herein. As your late Governor General, in virtue of the powers with which he was invested, had agreed with the Vizier to strike out the charge of this detachment from his account from 1st January 1785, we hereby direct that the said agreement be punctually adhered to.

7. In the final arrangement of the military peace establishment which will accompany this dispatch, we have had in view the whole of the service which it will be necessary to provide for under your Presidency; such part of that establishment as will be stationed in the Vizier's dominions will be paid by him according to the stipulations of the subsisting agreements. But it is our positive order, that no greater number of troops be employed upon that service, unless at his Excellency's particular application and request; and that all the troops so employed be considered as part of our fixed establishment, which is not upon any account to be enlarged.

8. We cannot help expressing our regret that the opinion of your Board did not concur with that of the Governor General, when the question concerning the recall of Colonel Cumming's detachment was under your consideration, as the expence of it will, before the receipt of this letter, amount to nearly the sum of £. 300,000; and we agree with Mr. Hastings, that the brigade which by treaty is to be constantly resident in those dominions, would be found fully adequate to their protection. We therefore direct, that upon receipt of this letter not a moment be lost in ordering the recall of Sir John Cummings's detachment, so that the Company may be instantly relieved from the burden of that enormous expence.

16. The irruption of the Seiks, of which you advise us, leads to no other conclusion but the propriety of keeping a watchful eye over the western frontier of our own provinces, and those of the Vizier, which is the conclusion you properly draw from it.

17. In a preceding paragraph, we have directed the immediate recall of the Futtý Ghur detachment. But as by your last advices we find that in consequence of these hostilities from the Seiks in the province of Rohilcund, the Vizier had applied for the assistance of a part of this detachment, and that it was probable he would make a further request for the whole, we hereby order, that the detachment be continued so long as the Vizier shall deem such continuance necessary for his own security, in which case the expence thereof must be carried to his account, agreeably to the stipulations of the treaty of 1781.

18. But as soon as the Vizier shall cease to require the assistance of all or any part of that detachment, we direct our former orders to be carried into execution; and even during the time the Vizier may call for their assistance, we hereby order, that the whole expence of the staff, batta, and other contingencies, be immediately abolished.

19. And while upon this subject, we think it proper to express our approbation of the principles contained in Mr. Macpherson's letter to the Vizier, bearing date the 18th February last, and we expect that the agreements made between the Vizier and Mr. Hastings will be invariably adhered to.

20. Upon the same principle we must express our opinion, that if the continuance of Major Palmer with the Vizier is wished for by him, it would be improper at present to recall him, and far less would it be proper to send any person to reside with him whose presence would be peculiarly adverse to his feelings.

21. We observe what is stated relative to the good opinion Mr. Macpherson entertains of Mr. Bristow and Mr. Cowper. Upon that subject we purposely refrain from giving any opinion whatever; for the whole transactions in Oude for a considerable time past will very soon receive our full consideration, and it would be improper to anticipate any opinion at present.

22. In your letter of the 22d February last, we find it stated, that the sum charged to the Vizier for the brigade at Cawnpore is short of the actual expence, in the monthly sum of current rupees 33,760. 12. 4, and for the Futtý Ghur detachment is current rupees 49,287. 11. 8, and for the regiment at Lucknow current rupees 984. 3. 10. It is not our intention to charge to the Vizier more or less than by the treaty he has stipulated to pay; but we must at the same time direct,

rect, that you make such arrangements in the corps serving in his Excellency's dominions, without diminishing their actual force, as will reduce their expences within the sum stipulated for them.

23. As we consider the troops stationed in the territories of the Nabob of Oude as forming a strong barrier to our own provinces, and as in our separate letter of this date we have stated the established force which we think fully adequate to their defence, it is our meaning that those troops shall be considered as forming a part of such establishment.

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*COPY of Letter from Warren Hastings, Esq; to the Court of Directors, relative to their Censure on his Conduct at Benares; and also the Answer of the Court of Directors thereto.*

To the Honourable Court of Directors of the Honourable United East India Company.

Fort William, 20th March 1783.

Honourable Sirs,

IN your letter to the Governor General and Council, dated the 28th August 1782, you have been pleased to enter into a large discussion of my proceedings at Benares, and to apprize the Board of certain resolutions comprehending your judgment upon them. These resolutions, as the immediate cause and subject of my present address, I shall, to avoid the perplexity of frequent and remote reference, hereto subjoin.

“ That it appears to this Court that on the death of Sujah Dowlah, 1775, a treaty was made with his successor, by which the Zemindary of Benares, with its dependencies, was ceded in perpetuity to the East India Company.

“ That it appears to this Court that Rajah Cheit Sing was confirmed by the Governor General and Council of Bengal in the management of the said Zemindary (subject to the sovereignty of the Company) on his paying a certain tribute, which was settled at sicca rupees 22,66,180; and that the Bengal government pledged itself that the free and uncontrouled possession of the Zemindary of Benares, and its dependencies, should be confirmed and guaranteed to the Rajah and his heirs for ever, subject to such tribute, and that no other demand should be made upon him, nor any kind of authority or jurisdiction exercised within the dominions assigned him, so long as he adhered to the terms of his engagements.

“ That it appears to this Court that the Governor General and Council did, on the 5th of July 1775, recommend to Rajah Cheit Sing to keep up a body of 2,000 horse, but at the same time declared there should be no obligations upon him to do it.

“ That it appears to this Court that Rajah Cheit Sing performed his engagements with the Company in the regular payment of his tribute of sicca rupees 22,66,180.

“ That it appears to this Court that the conduct of the Governor General towards the Rajah whilst he was at Benares was improper; and that the imprisonment of his person, thereby disgracing him in the eyes of his subjects and others, was unwarrantable and highly impolitic, and may tend to weaken the confidence which the native Princes of India ought to have in the justice and moderation of the Company's government.”

I understand that these resolutions were either published, or intended for publication. As they have proceeded from an authority so respectable, every reader of them will naturally and without hesitation believe that the facts on which they necessarily and indispensably depend have been fully established.—And who are the readers? Not the Proprietors alone, whose interest is immediately concerned in them, and whose approbation I am impelled, by every motive of pride and gratitude, to solicit, but the whole body of the people of England, whose passions have been excited on the general subject of the conduct of their servants in India; and before them I am arraigned, and prejudged of a violation of the national faith in acts of such complicated aggravation, that if they were true, no punishment short of death could atone for the injury which the interest and credit of the public had sustained in them.

I hope therefore I shall not be thought to give unnecessary trouble in calling your attention to a subject not wholly personal, nor to fail in the respect in which I have never yet failed, to your

Honourable Court, in the mode of my vindication, which will not admit of the common delicacies of expression; for I cannot admit facts, however affirmed, which I know to have no existence, and by which my character has been blasted, nor will a simple denial or refutation of them be sufficient against such a charge, if I can at the same time appeal to your own knowledge, proved by the evidence of your own arguments, and to what your Honourable Court possesses of candour for my first justification and acquittal.

The facts affirmed, or expressed in terms equal to affirmation, in your resolutions, are as follows:

1st. That the Bengal government pledged itself that the free and uncontrouled possession of the Zemindary of Benares, and its dependencies, should be confirmed and guaranteed to the Rajah and his heirs for ever.

2d. That it pledged itself that no other demand should be made upon him, nor any kind of authority or jurisdiction exercised within the dominions assigned him, so long as he adhered to the terms of his engagements.

3d. That the Governor General required him to keep up a body of 2,000 horse, contrary to the declaration made to him by the Governor General and Council, on the 5th July 1775, that there should be no obligation on him to do it.

4th. That Rajah Cheit Sing was bound by no other engagements to the Company than for the payment of his tribute of ficca rupees 22,66,180.

5th. That Rajah Cheit Sing was a native Prince of India.

6th. The judgment passed on my conduct as deducible from these facts is that it was "improper, unwarrantable, and highly impolitic, and may tend to weaken the confidence which the native Princes of India ought to have in the justice and moderation of the Company's government."—Here I must crave leave to say, that the terms "improper, unwarrantable, and highly impolitic," are much too gentle, as deductions from such premises; and as every reader of the latter will obviously feel, as he reads, the deductions which inevitably belong to them, I will add that the strict performance of solemn engagements on one part, followed by acts directly subversive of them, and by total dispossession, on the other, stamps on the perpetrators of the latter the guilt of the greatest possible violation of faith and justice.

But this, and every other conclusion from the facts adduced in proof of them, will fall, if the facts themselves have no existence.—I do therefore most positively and solemnly deny their existence.

I deny that the Bengal government pledged itself, that the free and uncontrouled possession of the Zemindary of Benares, and its dependencies, should be confirmed and guaranteed to the Rajah and his heirs for ever.

I deny that the Bengal government pledged itself that no other demand should be made upon him, nor any kind of authority or jurisdiction exercised within the dominions assigned him, so long as he adhered to the terms of his engagements.

I deny that I ever required him to keep up a body of 2,000 horse, contrary to the declaration made to him by the Governor General and Council, on the 5th July 1775, that there should be no obligation on him to do it.

My demand (that is the demand of the Board) was not that he should maintain any specific number of horse, but that the number which he did maintain should be employed for the defence of the general state.

I deny that Rajah Cheit Sing, was bound by no other engagements to the Company, than for the payment of his tribute of ficca rupees 22,66,180.

He was bound by the engagements of fealty, and absolute obedience to every order of the government which he served. The various and repeated professions of his letters are proofs and acknowledgments of this construction of his vassalage; and his own cabuleeat, or the instrument by which he engaged to perform the duties of his Zemindary, expresses it in the acknowledgments of the Company's sovereignty.

I deny

I deny that Rajah Cheit Sing was a native Prince of India.

Cheit Sing is the son of a collector of the revenue of that province, which his arts, and the misfortunes of his master, enabled him to convert to a permanent and hereditary possession. This man, whom you have thus ranked amongst the Princes of India, will be astonished, when he hears it, at an elevation so unlooked for, nor less at the independent rights which your commands have assigned him; rights which are so foreign to his conceptions, that I doubt whether he will know in what language to assert them, unless the example which you have thought it consistent with justice, however opposite to policy, to shew, of becoming his advocates against your own interests, should inspire any of your own servants to be his advisers and instructors.

I forbear to detail the proofs of these denials: In legal propriety I might perhaps claim a dispensation from it, and require the charges to be proved, not myself disprove them; but I have already disproved them in my narrative of my proceedings at Benares, which has been long since in your hands, and is I hope in the hands of the public.—To that I think it sufficient to refer, and to point out the ninth and following pages of the copy which was printed in Calcutta for a complete explanation, and I presume as complete a demonstration of the mutual relation of Rajah Cheit Sing, the vassal and subject of the company, and of the Company his Sovereign.

The subject to which I now proceed, and on which I rest my fullest acquittal, is too delicate to admit of my entering upon it without requesting your indulgence and pardon for whatever may appear offensive in it; and declaring that I should have submitted in silence to the severest expressions of censure which you could pass upon me, had they been no more than expressions; and applied to real facts; but where the censures are not applied to real facts, and are such as substantially affect my moral character, I should be myself an accomplice in the injury, if I suffered the slightest imputation to remain, which it was in my power wholly to efface.

A breach of faith necessarily implies antecedent and existing engagements, and can only be construed such by the express terms of those engagements. I have been guilty of this crime in my treatment of Rajah Cheit Sing, or of none; and I may be allowed to regret, that while you stated such facts as implied it, you did not in terms declare it. There is an appearance of tenderness in this deviation from plain construction, of which, however meant, I have a right to complain; because it imposes on me the necessity of framing the terms of the accusation against myself, which you have only not made, but have stated the leading arguments to it so strongly, that no one who reads these can avoid making it, or not know to have been intended.

But permit me to ask—May I not presume, that this deviation arose from something more than a tenderness for my character or feelings? that it was dictated by a consciousness that no such engagements existed; for if any such did exist, why were they not produced in support of the charges?

Even the facts which are affirmed in the resolutions are such as must depend on some evidence; for they cannot exist independently. If the Bengal Government “pledged itself,” its pledge must be contained in the written instruments, which were expressly formed and declared to define the reciprocal relation and obligation of the Rajah and the Company.

The resolutions of your Honourable Court, as they stand unconnected in their original state, must be accepted as the conclusions from certain and established evidence; and this evidence, I must presume, you meant to produce in the long progress of detailed argument which precedes them in your general letter. This consists of pierced extracts from opinions delivered by me in the debates of council, which not only preceded the settlement made with the Rajah Cheit Sing, when his Zemindary became the property of the company; but, strange as it will appear, which passed on an occasion wholly foreign to it, and at a time when the company had not obtained the cession of the Zemindary. At the point of the settlement your detail stops; had it proceeded, it must have exhibited the conditions of the settlement, which would have contradicted every fact which you have asserted, and every man of candour will believe, that this was the only reason why it did not proceed; for why are my speculative opinions on the claim made upon the Nabob Assof ul Dowlah to the Cession of the Zemindary of Benares, which I thought an infringement of a treaty already subsisting with him, and upon the mode by which we should allow Rajah Cheit Sing to exercise the management of his Zemindary, when it had become the property of the Company, quoted in evidence against me when the actual deeds which conveyed to Cheit Sing his possession of the Zemindary, and all the conditions on which he held it, were the only criteria by which my conduct towards him could be tried? The debates from which my opinions are extracted are so voluminous, and my share in them bears so large a proportion, that it would take up much time and argument to prove what I could prove, that in their collective and relative sense they

they are perfectly consistent, so far as they can apply at all to my subsequent conduct; but were it otherwise, they were not to be made the rules of my conduct; and God forbid that every expression dictated by the impulse of present emergency, and unpremeditatedly uttered in the heat of party contention, should impose upon me the obligation of a fixed principle, and be applied to every variable occasion.

The wisdom of the legislature has declared, that the whole collective body of the Governor General and Council shall be bound by the opinions of the majority; but the doctrine implied in your quotation of my opinion is the reverse of that obligation, if my opinions were not conformable to those of a majority of the Board, formed on such concurrent opinions, ought to be quoted as the rules of my conduct, not the opinions which only led to them.

Having solemnly pronounced that Rajah Cheit Sing had performed his engagements with the Company, and that my conduct toward him was "improper and unwarrantable," you proceed to say, that "such further resolutions as you may think proper to come to on this important subject will be communicated to us by a future conveyance." This I cannot otherwise understand than as an indication of your intention to order the restoration of Rajah Cheit Sing to the Zemindary of Benares: It will be expected, after the judgment which you have passed, as an act of indispensable justice; and whenever this promissory declaration is made public, as it must be, if not already known, what may have been expected will be regarded as a certainty. If any thing were wanting but the express notification of your intention to confirm it, the recall of Mr. Markham, who was known to be the public agent of my own nomination at Benares, and the re-appointment of Mr. Francis Fowke, by your order, contained in the same letter, would place it beyond a doubt. This order has been obeyed; and whenever you shall be pleased to order the restoration of Cheit Sing, I will venture to promise the same ready and exact submission in the other members of your council.

Of the consequences of such a policy I forbear to speak. Most happily, the wretch whose hopes may be excited by the appearances in his favour, is ill qualified to avail himself of them, and the force which is stationed in the province of Benares is sufficient to suppress any symptoms of internal sedition; but it cannot fail to create distrust and suspense in the minds both of the rulers and of the people, and such a state is always productive of disorder.

But it is not in this partial consideration that I dread the effects of your commands; it is in your proclaimed indisposition against the first executive member of your first government in India; it is as well known to the Indian world as to the Court of English proprietors, that the first declaratory instruments of the dissolution of my influence, in the year 1774, were Mr. John Bristow and Mr. Francis Fowke. By your ancient and known constitution, the Governor has ever held forth and understood to possess the ostensible powers of government; all the correspondence with foreign Princes is conducted in his name; and every person resident with them for the management of your political concerns is understood to be more especially his representative, and of his choice: And such ought to be the rule; for how otherwise can they trust an agent nominated against the will of his principal? or how, knowing him to act under the variable instructions of a temporary influence, or the casual dictates of a majority, can they rely on the measures which he may propose, and which a sudden change of influence, always expected in a deviation from constitutional forms, may undo, and subject them, in every instance of their connection, to a continual fluctuation of affairs?

When the state of this administration was such as seemed to admit of the appointment of Mr. Bristow to the Residency of Lucknow, without much diminution of my own influence, I gladly seized the occasion to shew my readiness to submit your commands: I proposed his nomination; he was nominated, and declared to be the agent of my own choice. Even this effect of my caution is defeated by your absolute command for his re-appointment, independent of me, and with the supposition that I should be adverse to it. I am now wholly deprived of my official powers, both in the province of Oude and in Zemindary of Benares.

Nor will the evil stop at these lines.—My general influence, the effects of which have been happily manifested for the support of your interests, is now wholly lost, or what may remain of it sustained only by the prescription of long possession, and something perhaps of personal attachment, impressed by the habits of frequent intercourse.

I almost shudder at the reflection of what might have happened at these denunciations against your own minister, in favour of a man universally considered, in this part of the world, as justly attained for his crimes, the murderer of your servants and soldiers, and the rebel to your authority, arrived two months earlier. You will learn with your common dispatches what difficulties

Mahdajee

Mahdajee Scindia has had to surmount in reconciling the different members of the Mahratta State to the ratification, and even when ratified, to the interchange of the duty included by him in May last with this government. I dare to appeal even to your judgment for the reply; and to ask, whether the ministers of the Peshwa, possessing the knowledge of such a circumstance, would not have availed themselves of it to withhold their consent to the treaty, either claiming to include Cheit Sing as a party in it, or either overtly or secretly supporting his pretensions, with the view of multiplying our difficulties; or, which is most probable, waiting for the event of that change in the superior government of Bengal, with such symptoms portended, before they precipitated their interest in a connection with a declining influence, which they might obviously conclude would render this, with all its other acts, obnoxious to that which succeeded it?

Their counterpart of the treaty is ratified, and in our actual possession; and such is the character of the man whom we have made our principal guarantee of it, that it will insure us against any change of sentiment which might arise, from any cause, in the breasts of his countrymen. I am happy in having been the sole instrument of the accomplishment of so great an event. It originated in a scene of universal revolt, encompassing my own person; it began with the immediate separation of the first power of the Mahratta state from the general war, and was followed by the instant and general cessation of hostilities, in effect by a permanent peace; for I have a right now to affirm this, having positively assured you that it would prove such, while the formal confirmation of it remained so long in a state of suspense. In every progressive state of it, it has met with obstructions which might have discouraged even the most determined perseverance; in the known indisposition of the Presidency of Bombay; in the calamities of the Carnatic; in the alarming interference of the President and select committee of Fort St. George, by the exaggerated portrait of their affairs in a letter addressed to our minister, and sent in circulation through the midst of Decan and Indostan, entreating him at all events, and with whatever sacrifices, to precipitate the conclusion of the treaty, and save them from destruction; but above all, in the vehement exclamations for peace from men of every description in Great Britain, to all these counteractions I have opposed the principle of firmness and defence; and, aided by the peculiar talents, wariness, and incomparable perseverance of Mr. David Anderson, I have at length brought my wishes and yours to their destined point. Perhaps, with a less able minister, I might yet have failed; but even the merits of his services I claim as my own; for it was my choice which called his mind into action, and my confidence that gave it its best exertion. Pardon, Honourable Sirs, this degressive exultation; I cannot suppress the pride which I feel in this successful achievement of a measure so fortunate for your interests and the national honour; for that pride is the source of my zeal so frequently exerted in your support, and never more happily than in those instances in which I have departed from the prescribed and beaten path of action, and assumed a responsibility which has too frequently drawn on me the most pointed effects of your displeasure. But however I may yield to my private feelings in thus enlarging on the subject, my motive in introducing it was immediately connected with its context, and was to contrast the actual state of your political affairs, derived from a happier influence, with that which might have attended an earlier dissolution of it.

It is now a complete period of eleven years since I first received the first nominal charge of your affairs; in the course of it I have invariably had to contend, not with ordinary difficulties, but such as most unnaturally arose from the opposition of those very powers from which I primarily derived my authority, and which were required for the support of it. My exertions, though applied to an unvaried and consistent line of action, have been occasional and dissuatory; yet I please myself with the hope, that in the annals of your dominion, which shall be written after the extinction of recent prejudices, this term of its administration will appear not the least conducive to the interests of the Company, nor the least reflective of the honour of the British name; and allow me to suggest the instructive reflection of what good might have been done, and what evil prevented, had due support been given to that administration which has performed such eminent and substantial services without it.

You, Honourable Sirs, can attest the patience and temper with which I have submitted to all the indignities which have been heaped upon me in this long service. It was the duty of fidelity, which I essentially owed to it; it was the return of gratitude, which I owed, even with the sacrifice of life, had that been exacted, to the Company, my original masters, and most indulgent patrons. To these principles have I devoted every private feeling, and persevered in the violent maintenance of my office, because I was conscious that I possessed, in my integrity, and in the advantages of local knowledge, those means of discharging the functions of it with credit to myself, and with advantages to my employers, which might be wanting in more splendid talents; and because I had always a ground of hope, that my long sufferance would disarm the prejudices of my adversaries, or the rotation of time produce that concurrence in the crisis of your fortune with my own, which might place me in the situation to which I aspired. In the mean time,

there was nothing in any actual state of your affairs, which could discourage me from the prosecution of this plan. There was indeed an interval, and that of some duration, in which my authority was wholly destroyed; but another was substituted in its place, and that, though irregular, was armed with the public belief of an influence invisibly upholding it, which gave it a vigour scarce less effectual than that of a constitutional power. Besides, your government had no external dangers to agitate and discover the looseness of its composition.

The case is now most widely different.—While your existence was threatened by wars with the most formidable powers of Europe, added to your Indian enemies, and while you confessedly owed its preservation to the seasonable and vigorous exertions of this government, you chose that season to annihilate its constitutional powers. You annihilated the influence of its executive member;—you proclaimed its annihilation; you virtually called on his associates to withdraw their support from him, and they have withdrawn it; but you have substituted no other instrument of rule in his stead, unless you may suppose that it may exist, and can be effectually exercised, in the body of your council at large, possessing no power of motion, but an inert submission to the letter of your commands; which, however necessary in the wise intention of the legislature, have never yet been applied to the establishment of any original plan or system of measures; and seldom felt, but in instances of personal favour, or personal displeasure.

Under such a situation, I feel myself impelled, by the same spirit which has hitherto animated me, to retain my post against all the attempts made to extrude me from it, to adopt the contrary line.—The season for contention is past.—The present state of affairs is not able to bear it.—I am morally certain that my successor in this government, whoever he may be, will be allowed to possess and exercise the necessary powers of his station, with the confidence and support of those who by their choice of him will be interested in his success. I am become a burthen to the service, and would instantly relieve it from the incumbrance, were I not apprehensive of creating worse consequences by my abrupt removal from it. Such an act would probably be considered by Mahdajee Scindia as a desertion of him in the instant of his accomplishment of the treaty, and defeat the purposes of it, which remain yet to be effected by his agency. I am also persuaded, that it would be attended with the loss of the Commander in Chief, in whose presence alone I look for the restoration of peace to the Carnatic, which he perhaps would think too hazardous in undertaking, with no other support than that of a broken government.—I have now no wish remaining, but to see the close of this calamitous scene, and for that I hope a few months will be sufficient.—My services may afterwards be safely withdrawn; but will still be due, in my conception of what I owe to my first constituents, until they can be regularly supplied by those of my appointed successor, or until his succession shall have been made known, and the interval but short for his arrival.

It therefore remains to perform the duty which I had assigned to myself as the final purpose of this letter, to declare, as I now most solemnly do, that it is my desire that you will be pleased to obtain the early nomination of a person to succeed me in the government of Fort William;—to declare, that it is my intention to resign your service, as soon as I can do it without prejudice to your affairs, after the allowance of a competent time for your choice of a person to succeed me;—and to declare, that if in the intermediate time you shall proceed to order the restoration of Cheit Sing to the Zemindary, from which, by the powers which I legally possessed, I conceive myself legally bound to assert, against any subsequent authority to the contrary, derived from the same common source, he was deposed for crimes of the greatest enormity, and your council shall resolve to execute the order, I will instantly give up my station and the service.

To these declarations, suffer me to add this reservation, that if in the mean time the acts of which I complain shall, on a mature revision of them, be revoked, and I shall find myself possessed of such a degree of your confidence as shall enable me to support the duties of my station, I will continue in it until the peace of all your possessions shall be restored, or it shall be your pleasure to allow me to resign it.

I have the Honour to be,

Honourable Sirs,

Your most obedient,

and faithful Servant,

WARREN HASTINGS

P. S.

P. S. Upon a careful revifal of what I have written, I fear that an expreffion which I have ufed, refpecting the probable conduct of the Board, in the event of orders being received for the refutation of Cheit Sing, may be conftrued as intimating a fense of difatisfaction applied to tranfactions already paff. — It is not my intention to complain of any one, but to vindicate my own character, and to ftate the difficulties of my fituation. — Neither do I mean, by excepting one perfon, to caft a censure on any others; yet, I feel, in my efteem for Mr. Wheeler, and in my follicitude to avoid even the imputation of reflecting unjuftly on his conduct, a duty impelling me to declare, that, in my experience of it, fince the time that we were firft in the habits of mutual confidence, it has been fair and honourable to myfelf, and zealous to the public; equally free from profeffion and fubterfuge; and his fupport given to me, in every inftance, equal to whatever claim I might have to it.

W. H.

OBSERVATIONS on a Letter to the Court of Directors of the Eaft India Company from Warren Haftings, Efq. Governor General of Bengal, dated at Fort William, the 20th March, 1783, interfperfed with fuch authentic Documents, as tend to fhew the Grounds upon which the Directors eftablifhed their Refolutions refpecting Mr. Haftings' Conduct towards Cheyt Sing, the Rajah of Benares. — Printed by Order of the Court of Directors, November 19, 1783.

At a Court of Directors, held on Thursday, the 18th July 1782.

**R**ESOLVED, 1st. That it appears to this Court, that on the death of Sujah Dowlah in 1775, a treaty was made by his fucceffor, by which the Zemindary of Benares, with its dependencies, was ceded in perpetuity to the Eaft India Company.

Resolved, 2d. That it appears to this Court, that Rajah Cheyt Sing was confirmed by the Governor General and Council of Bengal in the management of the faid Zemindary (fubject to the fovereignty of the Company) on his paying a certain tribute, which was fettled at Sicca rupees 22,66,180; and that the Bengal government pledged itfelf, that the free and uncontrouled poffeffion of the Zemindary of Benares, and its dependencies, fhould be confirmed and guaranteed to the Rajah and his heirs for ever, fubject to fuch tribute; and that no other demand fhould be made upon him, nor any kind of authority or jurifdiction exercifed within the dominions affigned him, fo long as he adhered to the terms of his engagements.

Resolved unanimoufly, 3d. That it appears to this Court, That the Governor General and Council did, on the 5th July 1775, recommend to Rajah Cheyt Sing to keep up a body of 2,000 horfe, but at the fame time declared there fhould be no obligation on him to do it.

Resolved unanimoufly, 4th. That it appears to this Court, that Rajah Cheyt Sing performed his engagements with the Company, in the regular payment of his tribute of Sicca rupees, 22,66,180.

Resolved, 5th. That it appears to this Court, that the conduct of the Governor General towards the Rajah, whilft he was at Benares, was improper; and that the imprifonment of his perfon, thereby difgracing him in the eyes of his fubjects and others, was unwarrantable and highly impolitic, and may tend to weaken the confidence which the native princes of India ought to have in the juftice and moderation of the Company's government.

OBSERVATIONS,

## O B S E R V A T I O N S, &amp;c.

The Court of Directors having thought proper, after the most mature deliberation, to come to sundry resolutions respecting the conduct of the Governor General of Bengal towards Cheyte Sing, the Rajah of Benares, the same were transmitted to the Governor General and Council, with several prefatory paragraphs. These resolutions have produced a very extraordinary reply on the part of the Governor General, denying, in the most positive terms, the existence of the facts on which they were founded.

As the Governor General has forbore "to detail the proofs of these denials," notwithstanding his opinion, "that a simple denial of them would not be sufficient," his letter would probably have remained unnoticed, had not the zeal of his friends, by printing and circulating it, forced it upon the public attention. A letter calculated to bring contempt, as well as an odium on the Court of Directors, for their conduct on this occasion.

This step, taken by Mr. Hastings's friends, makes it necessary, in vindication of the conduct of the Court of Directors, to bring forward such observations as naturally occur on the various assertions contained in the Governor General's letter; and in order to remove any unfavourable impressions which it may have made on the minds of the public.

The printed letter above mentioned, is preceded by extracts from the Company's general letter to Bengal, dated the 28th of August 1782; at the conclusion of which extracts is added the following note or memorandum.

"The letter from which the foregoing extracts were taken, was signed by the two Chairs and eleven Directors."

It may therefore be proper, before we enter on a justification of the resolutions, to which part of the foregoing extracts allude, to state,

That for the 1st resolution they were 22 Directors against one.

For the 2d resolution there were 15 against 8.

The 3d resolution passed unanimously.

The 4th resolution, "that Cheyt Sing performed his engagements, &c." passed likewise unanimously.

For the 5th resolution, after the terms of it, respecting the conduct of Mr. Hastings, had been much softened, there were 16 Directors against 7.

The Governor General, in his letter respecting the said resolutions, has expressed himself in the following words:

"I deny that the Bengal government pledged itself, that the free and uncontrouled possession of the Zemindary of Benares, and its dependencies, should be confirmed and guaranteed to the Rajah and his heirs for ever.

"I deny that the Bengal government pledged itself, that no other demand should be made upon him, nor any kind of authority or jurisdiction exercised within the dominions assigned him, so long as he adhered to the terms of his engagements."

Rajah Bulwant Sing, the father and immediate predecessor of Rajah Cheyt Sing had rendered great assistance to the Company, in the war between them and the late Vizier, Sujah Dowlah, Nabob of Oude. Upon the conclusion of that war, General Carnac was, on the 11th June 1765, empowered by the President and Council of Bengal to settle certain preliminary articles with Sujah Dowlah, one of which was, to secure Bulwant Sing in the possession of his country. And by the 5th article of the definitive treaty concluded by Lord Clive at Allahabad, on the 16th August following, "His Highness Sujah Dowlah engages, in the most solemn manner, to continue Bulwant Sing in the Zemindaries of Benares, Gauzipore, and all those districts he possessed at the time he came over to the late Nabob Jaffer Aly Khan and the English, on condition of his paying the same revenue as heretofore."

On

On the death of Bulwant Sing, in August 1770, his son Cheyt Sing was, at the recommendation and request of the President and Council of Bengal, invested with the government of his father's territories, on his giving a nazerrannah of 20 lacks of rupees, and agreeing to an increase of two lacks and a half in his annual tribute.

The instrument which was delivered to Cheyt Sing by the Vizier upon this occasion is called a *treaty*, in which are the following words: "excepting what is included in the present agreement, *nothing shall ever be demanded of you in future.*"—It then concluded, "in this, God, and the Prophet of God, and the Koran, are included, that between us, and *our joint posterity*, there will never be a *variation herein.*"

The negotiation for establishing Cheyt Sing in the Zemindary of his father, was carried on by Captain (now Colonel) Gabriel Harper.—The following passage, in a letter from him of the 8th October 1770, to the President and Council of Bengal, giving an account thereof, points out the true line of policy which ought to have been followed by those who afterwards took the lead in that country: "I will leave to the young Rajah, and others, to acquaint you how I have conducted myself; only thus much let me say, that I have kept a strict eye not to *diminish our national honour, disinterestedness, and justice*; which I will conclude has had a greater effect in securing to the Company their vast possessions, *than even the force of their arms, however formidable, could do.*"

The settlement of the Zemindary in the family of Bulwant Sing was deemed of such consequence to the Company's affairs, that the President and Council, in their letter to the Court of Directors of 31st of October, 1770, offer their congratulations in the following words.—"Permit us, honourable Sirs, to congratulate you on so very happy a *conclusion* of an event we deem highly important to your interest. And in their letter to the Court of 24th of December following, they say, "that *Cheyt Sing is now FULLY invested with the government, to the entire satisfaction of every one, and is considered by the Vizier as holding that country on the same terms as his father, the difference in the revenues excepted.*"

The Rajah, by a letter to the Governor received the 7th of November, expressed his sense of the obligation thus conferred upon him, in the following words: "The favour of the English Sirdars is such that I cannot describe the smallest particle thereof, and if even every hair of my head was a tongue, it would be impossible to express my sense of it."

This event happened more than twelve months before Mr. Hastings succeeded to the office of President and Governor of Bengal; yet he has asserted in his printed narrative, "That Cheyt Sing obtained from our influence, exerted by *myself*, the *first legal* title that his family ever possessed of property of which he, till then, was only the Aumil, and of which he became the *acknowledged Zemindar*, by a *fannud* granted to him by the Nabob Sujah Dowlah, at my instance, in the month of September, 1773."

This ill-grounded assertion has been noticed here in order to shew the necessity of a careful examination of the several positive assertions in the Governor General's letter, before a decided opinion be formed of the conduct of the Directors.

In the beginning of the year 1773, it was determined by the Council of Bengal, that their President, Mr. Hastings, should proceed to Benares, in order to obtain a personal interview with the Vizier. And in their instructions to him upon this occasion, dated 23d June 1773, they say "We empower you to *renew*, on behalf of Rajah Cheyt Sing, the stipulation which was *formerly made with the Vizier in favour of his father Rajah Bulwant Sing, in consideration of his services to the Company in the year 1764.*"

Mr. Hastings having executed his commission, he, on the 4th of October, resumed his seat at the Board, and delivered in a report of his negotiations.

These negotiations, so far as they relate to Rajah Cheyt Sing, are reported in the following words:

"No. 3. is a Persian copy of a *coulnama*, or *engagement*, which I obtained from the Vizier, *confirming to Rajah Cheyt Sing and his posterity*, the stipulations formerly made in behalf of his father Bulwant Sing.—No. 4. is an English translation of it.—No. 5, a copy of the Vizier's *pottah* or rent roll, fixed with Rajah Cheyt Sing for the year 1178\*, and alluded to in the *coulnama*.

"—No. 6, an English translation of the Pottah.—No. 7, the translation of a letter which I wrote to Rajah Cheyt Sing, as a further assurance of the condition promised in the coulnama."

"The coulnama was executed in my presence; and attested by me. The Vizier desired that the stipulations made in favour of the Rajah might be executed in this mode, rather than by an article in the treaty, and it was equally satisfactory to the Rajah.—I must remark that he had already given the Rajah a coulnama of this tenor, soon after the death of Bulwant Sing, through the solicitation of Captain Harpur, by the orders of the Select Committee.—He could therefore have no reasonable plea to refuse the confirmation of it. Nevertheless he seemed to think his former act of so little validity, that he pressed me, in very earnest terms, for my consent that he should dispossess the Rajah of the forts of Luteefgur, and Bidjygur, and take from him 10 lacks of rupees over and above the stipulated rent; and he seemed greatly dissatisfied at my refusal. He argued, that the treaty of Allahabad related to Bulwant Sing solely, and was never meant to extend to his posterity. I confess the letter of the treaty expresses no more, yet I cannot conceive that either the Rajah or Lord Clive, when the treaty was made, could have intended it in that sense. It has certainly been differently understood, both by the Company and by this administration; and the Vizier himself had before put it out of all dispute by the solemn act passed in the Rajah's favour, on his succession to the Zemindary. I am well convinced that the Rajah's inheritance, and perhaps his life, are no longer safe than while he enjoys the Company's protection, which is his due BY THE TIES OF JUSTICE, AND THE OBLIGATIONS OF PUBLIC FAITH; and which policy enjoins us to afford him ever most effectually."—  
"His country is a strong barrier to ours, without subjecting us to any expences, and we may depend upon him as a sure ally, whenever we may stand in need of his services."

In the translation of the coulnama given by Sujah Dowlah to Rajah Cheyt Sing, which was laid before the Council by Mr. Hastings, are the following passages:—"exclusive of the jumma\* specified in the cabooleat, no increase shall ever hereafter be demanded. By the word of God, and the holy Koran, and of the blessed Imaums, this agreement is made between me and my heirs, and you and your Heirs, and it shall never be deviated from."

The Pottah fixes the tribute at rupees 22,48,449; and concludes in this manner: "by the favour of God there shall never be any deviation from this agreement."

The paper No. 7, referred to in the before-mentioned report, which is a translation of a letter from Mr. Hastings to Rajah Cheyt Sing, as a further assurance of the conditions promised in the coulnama, is as follows:

"From the Governor to Rajah Cheyt Sing.

"At this time, the Vizier of the Empire having given you an agreement under his hand and seal, which I have countersigned, and also affixed my seal to; it is necessary, that, conformably thereto, and according to the treaty concluded at Allahabad by Lord Clive, and the Vizier, respecting Rajah Bulwant Sing, your deceased father, you with the greatest cheerfulness, pay to the Vizier the rent thereby established, in which case the Company will always attend to your welfare, and afford you their care and protection; and in the agreements afore-mentioned, there shall never be any breach or deviation."

Such was the relation in which Rajah Cheyt Sing stood to the Company, previous to the sovereignty of Benares being transferred to them, upon the succession of Asoph ul Dowlah to the Subahship of Oude.

Mr. Hastings' idea that the rights of Cheyt Sing were established, even before the Company were the guarantee for the performance of the agreement between him and the Vizier, is clearly expressed, by his refusal to permit the Vizier to dispossess the Rajah of the forts of Luteefgur and Bidjygur, and to take from him 10 lacks of rupees over and above the stipulated rents.—But when Mr. Hastings, on behalf of the Company, became himself the guarantee of a treaty, which confirmed the Zemindary to Cheyt Sing and his heirs for ever, under a certain fixed tenure, how much more was the Company's protection due to the Rajah, "by the ties of justice and the obligations of public faith!"

\* Amount of the tribute.

Even

Even after the death of Sujah Dowlah, and immediately preceding the transfer of the sovereignty of Benares, the Resident at the Court of the new Vizier was equally sensible of the rights of the Rajah, as appears by the following extract of a letter from him to the Governor General, dated 14th April 1775.

"I quoted (to the Vizier) the treaty subsisting between the late Vizier and Rajah Cheyt Sing, *and their heirs respectively*, of which the Company were the guaranties. So long as the Rajah paid his kists when they became due, his Excellency on his part *could not demand an increase of rent or sums in advance.*"

And on the very eve of the conclusion of the treaty with Asoph ul Dowlah, the young Vizier, Mr. Hastings stepped in between him and the Rajah to shield the latter from the unjust demands of the former, notwithstanding if the money had been received from the Rajah, the Vizier had promised *to pay it to the Company in part liquidation of his debt.* On that occasion the Rajah wrote a letter to Mr. Hastings, which he received on the 13th May 1775, expressing his acknowledgments in the following words: "I have been honoured with your friendly letter, informing me, that, *agreeably to my desire, you have written to the Nabob Asoph ul Dowlah, to desist from his demand of 6 lacks of rupees in advance.*" It concludes, "may the Almighty grant you a long continuance of every blessing which this world can afford, for your kindness to me on every occasion, who have no other dependance but on your favour!"

Having thus shewn the connection between Rajah Cheyt Sing and the Company previous to the sovereignty of Benares being transferred to the English, and the unalterable tenure by which he held his Zemindary under the Vizier, it is proper to examine the proceedings of the Governor General and Council, which led to the treaty with the successor of Sujah Dowlah, by which that sovereignty was vested in the Company.

In doing this, it is impossible to separate the simple negotiation for obtaining the sovereignty of the Zemindary from the terms upon which the Rajah was to hold it under the Company; for so far from the latter subject being, as Mr. Hastings has asserted in his printed letter, "wholly foreign to the former," it will be seen they are so blended together, that they cannot, nor indeed ought not, to be separated.

The death of Sujah Dowlah happened in the beginning of February 1775; and it having been agreed by the Bengal Council, on the 13th February following, that a new treaty should be executed with Asoph ul Dowlah, his son and successor, the Governor General proposed, "That each member of the Board should deliver in his sentiments of the conditions to be required or acceded to for the new treaty; observing that not having sufficiently considered the subject in the latitude which has been given to it by the foregoing resolutions, he wishes to prepare what he may have to offer himself."

Upon which it was "resolved, to adjourn unto the evening, that every member may prepare his ideas on the subject."

But how has Mr. Hastings spoken of the cool and deliberate opinion which he prepared in consequence of the preceding resolution, when he afterwards saw that opinion quoted by the Court of Directors? "God forbid (says he) that any expression, dictated by the *impulse of present emergency, and unpremeditatedly uttered in the heat of party contention*, should impose upon me the obligation of a fixed principle, and be applied to every variable occasion.

So far from its being the intention of the Board, that their opinions in this business should be considered as mere words passed in debate, it will be presently shewn, that even in this imperfect stage of it, they desired the attention of the Court of Directors to those very opinions; nor was it possible for the Court to consider them in any other light than as the deliberate sentiments of each individual member, which were hereafter to be so modified, as to meet the general concurrence.

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The Board being assembled in the evening, the members delivered in their separate opinions in writing; so far as those opinions relate to the province of Benares they are here subjoined.

§ The Resolutions here spoken of related only to the Vizier.

Mr.

## Mr. Francis's Opinion.

" The Zemindary of Benares is to be made dependant as a *fief* on the united kingdoms of Bengal and Bahar; and the *tribute*, lately paid by the Rajah to the Vizier, to be paid to this Government.

" The present Rajah of Benares to be confirmed in the Zemindary, which may be perpetuated in his family, under a *fixed annual tribute*, and a *fixed fine* at each future investiture; a free trade to be opened between these provinces and his country.—*The Rajah's authority in his own government to be left free and uncontrouled.*"

## Mr. Barwell's Opinion.

" The independency of Gauzeepoor on Oude is a great political object, and ought to be insisted on; and whatever may be resolved respecting the revenue paid by the Rajah of that country, the English Government ought not to stand in the same relation to it as the late Vizier; because the country of Benares and Gauzeepoor is a *natural barrier to these provinces*; and the Rajah should have the strongest ties of interest to support our Government, in case of any future rupture with the Soubah of Oude. To make this his interest, he must not be tributary to the English Government; for from the instant he becomes its tributary, from that moment we may expect him to side against us; and by taking advantage of the troubles and commotions that may arise, attempt to disburthen himself of his pecuniary obligations."

## Colonel Monson's Opinion.

" We should require that Cheyt Sing's Zemindary be annexed to the Subahship of Bengal, or Bahar, or to both."

## General Clavering's Opinion.

" That the Zemindary of Benares and Gauzeepoor shall be held by Cheyt Sing, of the Company, instead of the Subah of Oude.

" The Nabob to relinquish to the Company the *sovereignty* of Benares and Gauzeepoor, to be held, as at present, by Cheyt Sing, on his paying his tribute to the Company.

" In order to attach this Rajah to the Company, his tribute ought to be diminished, at least three lacks of rupees."

## Governor General's Opinion.

" That the perpetual and independent possession of the Zemindary of Benares, and its dependencies, be confirmed and guaranteed to Rajah Cheyt Sing, and his heirs, for ever, subject only to the annual payment of the revenue hitherto paid to the late Vizier, amounting to rupees 23,71,656. 12, to be disposed of as expressed in the following article; that no other demand be made upon him, either by the Nabob of Oude, or this Government, nor any kind of authority or jurisdiction exercised by either, within the dominions assigned him.

" 2d. That an equal partition be made of the revenue of the Zemindary of Benares, between the Company and the Nabob of Oude; that is to say, that the Rajah shall pay monthly to each the sum of rupees 98,823. 2. 9; amounting, on the whole, to rupees 23,71,656. 12, per annum; that this participation be expressly declared to be intended as a pledge and acknowledgment of the equal relation in which the Rajah and his successors are hereafter to stand to both Governments."

The Governor General's observations upon his own propositions, are as follow :

Observation on the first Proposition.

" The Rajah of Benares, from the situation of his country, *which is a frontier both to the provinces of Oude and Bahar*, may be made a serviceable ally to the Company, whenever their affairs shall require it. He has always been considered in this light, both by the Company, and the successive members of the late Council ; but to insure his attachment to the Company, his interest must be connected with it, which cannot be better effected, than by freeing him *totally* from the remains of his present vassalage, under the *guarantee and protection* of the Company ; and at the same time *guarding him against any apprehensions from this Government*, BY THUS PLEDGING ITS FAITH, *that no encroachments shall ever be made on his right by the Company.*"

Observation upon the second Proposition.

" I propose this article with some reluctance, as contrary to my idea of the right of the Nabob of Oude, in virtue of his agreement originally formed between his father and the Company ; but it is conformable to the principle adopted by the Board in the resolutions\* passed this morning, and may perhaps be obtained without much opposition from the Nabob ; at the same time that it contributes to *fix the independency of the Zemindary of Benares on the most permanent foundation.*"

These various written opinions were ordered to lie for the consideration of the Board.

Before it is stated what were the final resolutions of the Board upon this important subject, it is necessary to remark, that the establishing the *independency* of the Rajah of Benares (whether he was to hold his country under the sovereignty of the Vizier, or the Company, or both) was a point in which there was no difference of opinion. It was a great political arrangement. A mere glance at the map will at once shew the wisdom of such a policy, and how much it was for the good of the Company to bind the Rajah to their interests, on conditions that were *not to be altered or varied.*

That all these opinions might be duly weighed by every member, the Board did not resume the consideration of them till the 3d of March. In the intermediate space, the Governor General and Council wrote to the Court of Directors, on the 24th of February, that as the subject then under consideration was " of great magnitude and importance, they had chosen to enter upon it in council, *with all the deliberation which it requires.*" " The ideas of the different members," (say they) will appear in some of their consultations ; they are not given in as conclusive opinions, but as sentiments subject to be canvassed, modified, and corrected, and tending only to *throw light upon the subject*, before the final determination of the Board ; when that determination takes place, you shall be duly advised." Yet these opinions, so deliberately given, and to which the attention of the Court of Directors is thus particularly drawn, even before they became final resolutions, are interpreted by Mr. Hastings, in his letter, as expressions " *unpremeditatedly uttered in the heat of party contention.*" And their subsequent letter to the Court of the 24th March, say, " The subject was agitated in council with every degree of *attention and circumstantial discussion* which its consequence demanded."

On the 3d of March, 1775, as has been before observed, the Board resumed the consideration of the separate minutes delivered in by each member on the 13th February. And among other leading points, relative to the proposed treaty with the young Vizier, the Governor General proposed the following question :

" Whether it shall be made a condition of the new treaty, that Rajah Cheyt Sing shall exercise *a free and independent authority in his dominions, subject only to the payment of his tribute.*"

" Mr. Francis. Yes.

\* Which relate only to the Vizier.

" Mr. Barwell. Yes.

" Col. Monson. No, I think not, as I see no advantage in it for the Company's interest.

" Gen. Clavering. Provided he pays his *tribute* to the Company, I think he should be rendered *independent*.

" Governor General. Yes."

Here is a solemn resolution of the Board, with only one dissentient voice, that Rajah Cheyt Sing should exercise a *free and independent authority* in his own dominions, *subject only to the payment of his tribute*. And on the 24th of the same month, the Board acquainted the Court of Directors with their having resolved, " That the Rajah of Gauzepoor should be rendered *totally independent*, and be left to exercise a free authority in his own dominions, *subject only to the payment of his tribute*."

The general terms upon which Cheyt Sing was to hold his Zemindary, whether under the sovereignty of the Vizier, or the Company, or both, being thus settled, the next question proposed by the Governor General was as follows:

" Whether it shall be made an article in the treaty, that, in consideration of the engagements to be entered into by this Government, to guarantee the possessions of the Nabob of Oude, as before resolved, he shall cede and make over to the Company the whole, or any part of the tribute due from the Zemindary of Gauzepoor?"

And the several members of the Board having given their opinions thereon, it was resolved, " That a demand be made (of the Vizier) for the tribute of Gauzepoor, but that it be not considered an absolute and indispensable article in the negociation with the Nabob."

On consultation the 8th March, is entered another minute of Mr. Francis upon this business, in which is the following clause:

" In agreeing to the proposed *independency* of the Rajah of Benares, my meaning was to adhere strictly to the 3d paragraph of my minute of the 13th of February. The Zemindary may be perpetuated in his family, on *fixed and unalterable conditions*. The conditions I proposed tend to secure us a great accession of revenue, without any accession of territory. It is highly for his own advantage to be considered as a vassal of the sovereign of these kingdoms, holding a great hereditary fief by a *fixed tenure*, and acknowledging the sovereign of Bengal and Bahar to be his Lord paramount."

At length the new treaty with the Vizier was finally settled; by the 5th article of which the *sovereignty of Benares, and its dependencies, was ceded in perpetuity to the Company*.

The sovereignty of Benares being thus transferred to the Company, the Governor General, on the 12th June 1775, laid before the Board the following minute and observations for their consideration, with this preface:

" The sovereignty of the Zemindary of Benares, and its dependencies, having been ceded in perpetuity to the Honourable Company, by the 5th article of the treaty lately formed with the Nabob Afoph ul Dowlah, it becomes immediately necessary to determine in what manner this right shall be exercised, and the regular payment of the revenue due from the Rajah secured."

The Governor General then moved, " That this subject be taken into the consideration of the Board; and submits to their correction and approval, the following plan of settlement with Rajah Cheyt Sing, to be observed until the pleasure of the Company respecting it shall be known; declaring his readiness to acquiesce in any other which may be proposed, on terms by which more effectual provision may be made for the interest of the Company, *without an encroachment on the just rights of the Rajah, or the engagement actually subsisting with him*."

Before the recital of the Governor General's plan of settlement, it is necessary to remark, that though the *sovereignty* of Cheyt Sing's territories was removed into other hands, yet his *known and established rights* in those territories had undergone *no change whatever*. They are here acknowledged to exist in as full and compleat a manner as when the Vizier was his sovereign, and the

the subsisting engagements are allowed to remain in full force and virtue. The nature of those *just rights*, and the actual extent of *those engagements*, here recognized by the Governor General, may be ascertained by the several instruments already referred to, and by the construction put thereon by the Governor General, in his several interferences to prevent more being taken from the Rajah than the amount of his tribute.

But to proceed in the recital of the Governor General's propositions, with his observations thereon.

#### PROPOSITIONS.

" 1st. That Rajah Cheyt Sing shall pay in-  
" to the treasury of the Honourable Company  
" at Patna, in equal monthly payment, the  
" yearly revenue of 22,48,449 Sonaut rupees,  
" being the sum settled with the late Nabob  
" Sujah Dowlah, and confirmed by an agreement,  
" executed by the same Nabob, in presence of the  
" President of the late Council of Fort William,  
" at Benares, under date the 6th September,  
" 1773."

" 2d. That the Rajah shall be empowered  
" to exercise a complete and uncontrouled au-  
" thority over his Zemindary, under the ac-  
" knowledged sovereignty of the Company; in  
" the government of the country dependant on  
" him; in the collection of the revenues; and  
" in the administration of justice."

#### OBSERVATIONS.

" There is no question that the Rajah can  
" well afford to pay this proportion of the rents  
" of his Zemindary; *which consists of as rich*  
" *and well cultivated a territory as any district*  
" *perhaps of the same extent in India.*—The  
" Company have a clear and indisputable right  
" to this sum, nor is it likely that he will either  
" contest it, or desire any remission of it. Be-  
" sides, the other conditions proposed in this  
" plan will virtually prove both an augmenta-  
" tion of his means, and a diminution of his  
" real payments to government, as will be shewn  
" in the remarks on the last article. It is pro-  
" posed to receive the payment of his rents at  
" Patna, because that is the nearest provin-  
" cial station, and because it would not frustrate  
" the intentions of rendering the Rajah indepen-  
" dent. If a Resident was appointed to receive  
" the money as it became due, at Benares,  
" such a Resident would unavoidably acquire  
" an influence over the Rajah and over his  
" country, which would in effect render him  
" the master of both. This consequence might  
" not perhaps be brought completely to pass  
" without a struggle, and many appeals to the  
" Council, which in a government constituted  
" like this, cannot fail to terminate against the  
" Rajah; and, by the construction to which  
" his opposition to the agent would be liable,  
" might eventually draw on him severer restric-  
" tions, and end in reducing him to the mean  
" and depraved state of a mere Zemindar."

" 2d. The advantage which the Rajah will  
" receive from these concessions, exclusive of  
" the gratification which his pride would ob-  
" tain from the possession of a state of power and  
" dignity, unknown to any of his ancestors, and  
" the security of his person and possessions,  
" from the Company's protection, may be  
" rated equal to many lacks of rupees; which,  
" though saved to him, are no loss to the  
" government on which he depends; being all  
" articles of invisible expence in fees to the  
" ministers, and officers of the Nabob, in the  
" charges of a double establishment of Va-  
" keels to both governments, in presents and  
" charges of accommodation to the Nabob, during  
" his residence at any place within the bound-  
" aries of his Zemindary; in the frauds, em-  
" bezzlements, and oppressions exercised in the  
" mint, and the Cutwally, besides the allowed  
" profits of those officers; and the advantages  
" which every man in occasional power, or in  
" the credit of it, might make of the Rajah's  
" known weakness, and the dread he stood in,  
" both

## PROPOSITIONS.

“ That funnuds be granted to the Rajah,  
 “ especially conferring upon him the power of  
 “ appointing officers to the charge of the Cat-  
 “ wally, and the mint of Benares: the latter  
 “ to be subject to such orders and regulations as  
 “ the Governor General and Council shall at  
 “ any time think it proper to decree.”

## OBSERVATIONS.

“ both of the displeasure of the Nabob, and  
 “ the ill-will of individuals among the English  
 “ who were all considered, either in their  
 “ present stations or connections, or the right  
 “ of succession, as members of the state of  
 “ Bengal. It would be scarce possible to enu-  
 “ merate all the inconveniences to which the  
 “ Rajah was liable *in his former situation*; or  
 “ to estimate the precise effect which they pro-  
 “ duced on his revenue, and on the gross amount  
 “ of his expences; but it may be easily con-  
 “ ceived, that both were enormous, and of a  
 “ nature the most likely to lessen the profits of  
 “ government, instead of adding to them.”

“ 3d. These offices have been *considered as*  
 “ *marks of sovereignty*; at least this has served  
 “ for the pretext to with-hold them from the  
 “ Rajah, to whom they have been a heavy  
 “ grievance. The Catwally especially, which  
 “ being held in farm, and exercised under the  
 “ authority of a prince, who had no interest in  
 “ the welfare or ease of the people, has always  
 “ been represented, as in it's obvious tendency  
 “ it could scarce fail to prove, a source of the  
 “ worst corruption and oppression, from which  
 “ there was no appeal. If there be any weight  
 “ in the plea for referring these prerogatives to  
 “ the Company, the grant of them to the Rajah  
 “ himself, by special funnuds, will be a suffi-  
 “ cient expression of their *sovereignty*; although the  
 “ solemn renunciation of it, already made by the  
 “ Nabob of Oude, is the the best and most  
 “ valid charter under which it can be claimed;  
 “ and while they have three brigades, and a  
 “ full treasury to assert it, there is no fear that  
 “ their rights to it will be opposed by reason-  
 “ ings drawn from implied symbols of domi-  
 “ nion. Some regulations will be immediately  
 “ necessary for the mint, and others may occa-  
 “ sionally become so. No alteration should be  
 “ made in the weight or alloy of the coin to  
 “ be debased, and the Rajah himself hold his  
 “ right to the mint, on condition of his faith-  
 “ ful observance of these rules. By the custom  
 “ of Benares, all rupees struck in the mint are  
 “ called *ficcas*, and pass as the current coin of  
 “ the country for one year, after which they  
 “ are charged with a *batta*, varying from 2 to  
 “  $3\frac{1}{2}$  *per cent.* according to their dates, and  
 “ pass under the denomination of *Sonauts*, or  
 “ *Gawker Shakees*. It is in these species  
 “ that the rents are payable to Govern-  
 “ ment; and while they continue of  
 “ equal and proper qualities, they may be in-  
 “ troduced into circulation in the province of  
 “ Bahar, without loss to the Company, and  
 “ with an advantage to the collections. But  
 “ the greatest care ought therefore to be taken,  
 “ that the rupees be not debased; for if they  
 “ are, they will occasion a double loss on the  
 “ Company, by the immediate discount on them  
 “ in

## PROPOSITIONS.

## OBSERVATIONS.

" 4th. That in return for these concessions, and for the performance of his duty as a vassal to the Company, the Rajah shall engage to maintain in constant pay, and ready at all times for immediate service, a body of 2,000 horse, on such a fixed establishment as shall be prescribed by the Governor General and Council: and that whenever the service of this corps shall be required by the Governor General and Council, it shall be assigned to the command of such officer or officers as they shall appoint, and be allowed from the Company an additional pay or gratuity of fifteen rupees *per* month, for each private man, and in proportion for the officers of the said corps, during the time of such service."

" 5th. That while the Rajah shall continue faithful to these engagements, and *punctual* in his payments, and shall pay due obedience to the authority of this Government, *no more demands shall be made upon him by the Honourable Company, OF ANY KIND; or on any pretence whatsoever*, shall any person be allowed to interfere with his authority, or disturb the peace of his country."

" in the treasury, and by a false currency introduced into the revenue."

" I rather propose this for *consideration* than *recommend* it; such a body of well-disciplined and well appointed cavalry will give credit to the Rajah, and may prove serviceable to this government, though the occasions will rarely happen in which we shall want it; the additional pay will make them our own when we do want them, and will be no great expence."

" The voluntary restraint laid by Government on its own actions will afford the Rajah the *greatest confidence*, and naturally inspire him with sentiments of fidelity and attachment; both from the principles of gratitude and self-interest. Without some such appearance, he will expect, with every change of government, *additional demands* to be made upon him; and will, of course, descend to all the arts of intrigue and concealment practised by other dependent Rajahs, *which will keep him indigent and weak, and eventually prove hurtful to the Company*. By proper encouragement and protection, he may prove a *profitable dependent, a useful barrier, and even a powerful ally* to the Company; but he will be neither, if the *conditions of his connection with the Company are left open to FUTURE VARIATIONS*."

The foregoing minute was ordered to be circulated to the members of the Board, for their more attentive perusal and deliberation.

On the 5th July, the Board re-considered the Governor General's minute and plan proposed for a settlement with Rajah Cheyt Sing. The 1st, 2d, and 3d articles were, with some alterations, agreed to.

Upon the 4th article being read, several opinions were delivered in, of which the following are extracts:

Mr. Francis.—" I object to our *compelling* the Rajah to keep up an extraordinary force for our service, considering it in effect *as an increase of the tribute*; which is contrary to the principles which have guided my judgment from the first outset of this negotiation."

Mr. Barwell.—" I am of opinion, that the Rajah should keep up such a body of forces; but entertain the same sentiments with Mr. Francis, respecting its being an *enhancement of his tribute* and of any degree of *compulsion* to induce him to do it."

Colonel Monson.—“ I am of opinion the Company should receive the Rajah's assistance on the same terms he gave it to the Vizier, or the present Nabob.”

General Clavering.—“ I would not *compel* the Rajah to keep up any troops, but I would *recommend* it to him to maintain the number which the Governor General has proposed.”

Governor General.—“ It was far from my intention to propose *this* or *any other article* to be imposed on the Rajah by *compulsion*, I only proposed it as an article of speculation.”

“ Upon which the Board resolved, That it *be recommended* to Rajah Cheyt Sing to keep up a body of 2,000 cavalry, to be disciplined after the European manner, but that there be no obligation on him to do it.”

There was such a perfect unanimity in the Board respecting the 5th article of the Governor General's propositions, that all which is recorded respecting it is in these few words:

“ Read the 5th article; approved the proposition in this article.”

But as this article is the most material of the whole, a ready excuse will be made for repeating it in this place.

“ Resolved, That while the Rajah shall continue faithful to these engagements, and punctual to his payments, and shall pay due obedience to the authority of this government, *no more demands shall be made upon him, by the Honourable Company, of ANY KIND; or on any pretence whatsoever shall any person be allowed to interfere with his authority, or to disturb the peace of his country.*”

Such were, in general, the terms on which Rajah Cheyt Sing was to hold his Zemindary, and by a faithful adherence to which, on his part, the Company were bound to abide by them on theirs.

Some subsequent arrangements were made for ascertaining the exact amount of his tribute, which was finally settled at ficca rupees 22,66,180, and the royalties of the mint, of the administration of justice, and of the police, were afterwards settled upon him.

But Mr. Hastings is by no means willing to consent, that, in his examination of the rights and privileges which were possessed by the Rajah, any reference should be made to the instruments which passed between him and Sujah Dowlah in 1770, and to those of 1773, between the Rajah, the Vizier, and the Company, previous to the sovereignty of Benares being transferred to the latter; or to the opinions of the several members, and the resolutions of the Board in consequence, which were taken subsequent to such transfer; or to the solemn declarations which were made to the Rajah on his investiture. He wishes these to be buried in oblivion, and only desires to apply to the deeds which passed in consequence of those resolutions, and has accordingly pointed out the 9th and following pages of his narrative, printed in Calcutta, in which reference is made to the Sunnud, the Pottah, and the Cabooleat, dated the 15th April 1776.

But before we proceed to speak of those deeds, every one would naturally suppose that they contained the substance of the Board's resolutions, which were to serve as instructions to those employed in preparing the deeds; otherwise the deliberations of the Board were a mere solemn mockery; or the Sunnuds might as well have been made out immediately on the treaty being concluded with Asoph ul Dowlah, and the terms of these Sunnuds left for future discussion.

That it was at one time the intention of the Board to make the Sunnuds accord with their own resolutions; as they ought to have done, appears evidently from the following minute of Council, 26th February 1776.

“ Ordered, That the Secretary do prepare a draft of separate Sunnuds for the Zemindary and Cutwalla of Benares and Jaunpore, also of the mint of Benares, in the usual form, *expressing the conditions already resolved on, in the several proceedings of this Board.*” On the same day a letter was written to the Resident, wherein; after mentioning the terms of the remittance of the Rajah's tribute to Calcutta, they inform him “ that they have ordered proper Sunnuds to be prepared, specifying the above, as well as the several other conditions which have already been agreed to, and shall forward it to you to be delivered to the Rajah.” And in their letter to the Court of Directors

rectors in the secret department of the 20th of the following month, they again explain the terms of the remittance, and say, "that a Sunnud for his (Cheyt Sing's) Zemindary shall be furnished him on these, and the conditions before agreed on."

It is therefore plain, not only from the reason of the thing, but from the Board's own sense of the matter, that the written deeds ought to have contained the precise terms on which it was agreed that Cheyt Sing should hold his Zemindary; and the resolutions of the Board, and the Sunnud; should have been, as nearly as possible, counter-parts of each other.

Indeed it is confessed, by one of the members of the Board (Mr. Francis) that "the terms which were originally agreed to give the Rajah, and which he consented to, were made the fundamental tenure by which he held his Zemindary."

Why, therefore, the deeds were not made conformable to the resolutions; why they even fell short of the Sunnuds granted to the Rajah by the Vizier, to which the Company was the guarantee, notwithstanding the avowed policy of the Bengal government, to render him more independent than he was before, is difficult to conceive.

As the Governor General's narrative has been long since in the hands of the public, where the Sunnuds, &c. by which Cheyt Sing held his Zemindary, are said to be contained, it is necessary, in this place, to compare them with those held by the Rajah under the Vizier.

It has already been seen, that Mr. Hastings was the guarantee of the former Sunnuds; and that upon the sovereignty of Benares being transferred to the Company it was clearly understood, that in the future plan of settlement with the Rajah, no encroachment was to be made on his just rights, or the engagements actually subsisting with him.

In the Coulnama given by Sujah Dowlah, in 1773, are the following words: "*No increase shall ever after be demanded.*" In the Sunnud given by the Company, in 1776, these words are omitted.

In the Pottah of 1773, is the following sentence: "By the favour of God, there shall never be any deviation in this agreement." In that of 1776, this sentence is omitted. And the Governor General's letter to Cheyt Sing, in 1773, concludes thus: "In the agreements before mentioned, there shall never be any breach or deviation." Whether there were any variations in the Caboolat, cannot be ascertained, for if, in 1773, Cheyt Sing executed such an instrument, it is not entered on the records.

Having pointed out these variations, it is necessary to answer an objection, that, to the uninformed, seems naturally to arise out of the subject, viz. That though the spirit of the several resolutions of the Board is not incorporated with the actual deeds, as it ought to have been; yet, as Cheyt Sing was ignorant of those resolutions, he was bound by the terms of the Sunnuds, after he had accepted them, notwithstanding their deviation from the genuine intent and meaning of the Council, as expressed in those resolutions.

They who suppose that these resolutions were confined to the narrow limits of the Council Chamber; and that they remained locked up in the silent repositories of the other records, are much mistaken. Cheyt Sing was fully acquainted with them. And by whom? By the Governor General and Council themselves. For in their instructions to the Resident (Mr. Fowke) at the Rajah's court, which were dated the 24th August 1775; not much above a month after the resolutions passed, are the following words, viz.

"It will be proper to assure the Rajah, that we do not mean to increase his tribute, but to require from him the exact sum.

"That under the acknowledged sovereignty of the Company, we are determined to leave him the free and uncontrouled management of the internal government of his country, and the collection and regulation of the revenues, so long as he adheres to the terms of his engagements; and will never demand any augmentation of the annual tribute which may be fixed.

"As we deem it very essential that the Rajah, for the protection of his Zemindary, should maintain a body of regular troops, we would strongly recommend to him the keeping in constant pay, and ready at all times for service, 2,000 horse, disciplined and clothed after the European manner. We cannot authorize you to insist upon this article. However, as it appears so obvious  
"for

“ for his own interest, we doubt not but he will readily agree to it ; and it must be left to his option  
 “ to keep up, or reduce his present military establishment in consequence : And as an induce-  
 “ ment we will agree, whenever we may find occasion to call for the assistance of this corps, or  
 “ any part of it, *we will pay a gratuity of 15 rupees per month for each private man, and in propor-*  
 “ *tion for the officers, during the time that they may be in our employ.*”

But the Board were not satisfied with instructing their Resident to make the before-going representation ; they resolved that a letter should be written by the Governor General himself, to Rajah Cheyt Sing, to be delivered to Mr. Fowke, the Resident, with his credentials.

The following is extracted from it.

“ The Board being willing to continue the grant of the Zemindary to you, *in as full and ample*  
 “ *a manner as you possessed it from the former sovereigns, and upon the same terms, on your paying the*  
 “ *annual tribute, &c.*”

This letter also mentions, that Sunnuds for the grant of the mint and cutwally would be here-  
 after transmitted ; and concludes, “ the other sources from which the Nabob of Oude drew a re-  
 “ venue, will also be granted you, that you may possess *an uncontrouled and free authority in the re-*  
 “ *gulation and government of your own Zemindary.*”

It will plainly be seen, that these letters were written in the very spirit of the resolutions of the Board. Indeed, those resolutions were afterwards considered by Mr. Francis (Consultation 28th of September 1778) as “ *the voluntary and fundamental engagements of the government itself.* This  
 “ Board was already bound to the Rajah by certain acts of their own.” But with regard to the original instruments which passed between the Rajah and the Company, it is impossible to say whether they did, or did not, accord with those resolutions.

The deeds which Mr. Hastings has produced in his narrative, are dated the 15th of April 1776, and made out in consequence of the sovereignty of the mint and cutwally being vested in the Rajah ; whereas the original ones for the Zemindary were signed by the Board on the 4th of Sept. 1775, as appears by the following minute of Council on that day, made in consequence of an information from the Secretary, that he had prepared the Sunnuds for Rajah Cheyt Sing.

“ Agreed, That the Sunnuds, Pottah, and Coulnama, be now signed and transmitted to Mr.  
 “ Francis Fowke.”—And on the 20th of November following, the Court of Directors were acquainted, “ that Rajah Cheyt Sing had been invested with the *Sunnuds for his Zemindary, and a*  
 “ *Kellaut in all the proper forms.*”

Mr. Hastings has complained to the Court, that at the point of the settlement their detail stops. The detail was necessarily stopped here ; for the Sunnuds, &c. which passed upon the investiture, are not entered upon the Company's records. And it is fair to suppose, that these instruments agreed exactly with those which Cheyt Sing received from the Vizier in 1773 ; for in his letter to the Governor General, entered on the Persian correspondence of the 1st October 1775, he himself points out, that the Kellaut, with which he was to be presented on his new investiture, *is not of the same kind as that which he received from the late Vizier on the like occasion ;* and in consequence thereof, the Board, in their letter to the Resident, of the 11th of October, “ desire him to make  
 “ enquiry respecting the nature of that Kellaut, and *invest him with one of the same sort, on the part*  
 “ *of this government, instead of that which they formerly described to him.*”

The impossibility of the Court's referring to the original deeds which passed at the settlement of the Zemindary on Rajah Cheyt Sing being clearly shewn, as well as the probability that those deeds were similar to what he received from the Vizier ; we shall proceed to observe on the new Sunnuds, which were passed several months after the settlement and investiture in 1775.

On the 15th April 1776, the Secretary informed the Council, “ that having prepared the  
 “ Sunnuds and Pottah for Rajah Cheyt Sing's Zemindary, he begs leave to lay them before the  
 “ Board, with copy of an obligation to be executed by him for the remittance of his tribute ;” the Board then signed the former, and ordered all three to be transmitted to the Rajah.—These instruments Mr. Hastings has annexed to his narrative, and has referred to them in his letter.

But one material piece of information respecting them, Mr. Hastings has thought proper to withhold ; viz. *That the Rajah declined the acceptance of the Sunnud and Pottah, and objected to the execution of the Caboolat.*

The Resident states to the Board the Rajah's objections to them, in his letter of the 17th July, one of the principal of which was to the clause in the Sunnud and Caboodleat, by which *the former Sunnuds are declared to be null.*

The Rajah was sensible of his rights, and asserted them. The Board were not at this time disposed to infringe those rights; having, according to the Governor General's expression, "*A full treasury*;" but immediately (29th July) ordered the Secretary to prepare a new Sunnud and Pottah, *omitting the sentence declaring the former Sunnuds to be null.* These deeds were delivered to the Rajah, and the others, which he objected to, as well as those originally delivered to him, were received back and returned to the presidency.

Notwithstanding the before-mentioned transaction, the Governor General has printed the Sunnud of 15th April, without the alteration; and the words, "*all former Sunnuds to become null and void,*" are suffered to remain in the instrument, which the Governor General has referred to as the *actual* agreement.

With regard to the Caboodleat, on which Mr. Hastings has laid so much stress, it was not possible for the Court of Directors to gain any information from that, for it is nowhere entered upon the Company's records; and the Governor General's narrative is the only place in which it is to be found.

As it clearly appears that there were three sets of grants executed, though only one set is to have been necessary, and one only actually subsisting, it is proper here to recapitulate the various circumstances of these transactions. On the 24th August 1775, the Board ordered the necessary Sunnuds to be prepared for Cheyt Sing's Zemindary. On the 4th September they were signed, though they are not entered on the Company's records. On the 24th of October, the Rajah was invested with these Sunnuds by the Resident, Mr. Fowke. And on the 20th November the Court of Directors were acquainted, "*That Rajah Cheyt Sing had been invested with the Sunnuds for his Zemindary, and a Kellaut, in all the proper forms.*" After the investiture it was resolved, that the sovereignty of the mint and cutwally (administration of justice) should be vested in the Rajah. On the 22d of January 1776, the Rajah requested of the Board, through the Resident at his Court, that he might be furnished with Sunnuds, under their signature, for those offices. On the 30th of December, the precise amount of the Rajah's tribute was settled at rupees 22,66,180, with which the Board expected his acquiescence in consequence of the mint and cutwally being settled on him, "*and for the very great advantages he will derive by being thus secured in the free and independent government of his country.*" On the 26th February, the Resident expressed to the Board the Rajah's consent to the amount of the tribute as last settled. On which day the Board ordered the Secretary "*to prepare a draught of separate Sunnuds for the Zemindary and Cutwally;*" also "*of the mint, in the usual form, expressing the conditions already resolved on in the several proceedings of the Board.*" On the 15th of April the Board signed one Sunnud and a Pottah (not separate Sunnuds) in which Sunnud the Zemindary, the cutwally, and the mint, are included. A translation of the Sunnud and Pottah is entered upon the records, but not of the Coulnama. The Rajah objected to the Sunnud, on account of the clause, declaring all former Sunnuds to be null and void. The Board on the 29th July ordered new instruments to be made out (which are likewise not entered upon the records) omitting those words. These instruments were transmitted to the Rajah, and delivered to him by the Resident, Mr. Fowke, who received back the former Sunnuds, and returned those of September 1775 and April 1776, to the presidency.

But it is not from the letter of the deeds of April, printed by the Governor General, supposing they had not been rejected by the Rajah, that a judgment on this important matter is to be formed. The spirit of them is to be attended to; *with a due regard to all the relative circumstances of the case;—to the minutes and resolutions of the Board;—to the declarations which were made to the Rajah in consequence of those resolutions;—and to the great political object of establishing a barrier for the security of the provinces in case of a future rupture with the Vizier.* In 1773, the Governor General was sensible that the spirit and intention of a treaty ought to be adhered to when he gave so liberal a construction, in the Rajah's favour, of the treaty which had been made between his father and the late Vizier, and in his several interferences, to prevent more being exacted from the Rajah, than the amount of the tribute.

Having thus shewn the relation in which Cheyt Sing stood to the Vizier, who settled on him and his heirs for ever the Zemindary of Benares, *on certain fixed conditions*; and likewise the guarantee of the English, that those conditions should be adhered to on both sides; the subsequent agreement (*acknowledging the former to be in full force*) which was made with him upon the sovereignty of the province being vested in the Company; and the solemn assurances which were given to the Rajah, by the Supreme Council, in explanation of that agreement; it is presumed every unprejudiced

“diced person must be of opinion, that the Court of Directors were warranted in resolving, “That. “Rajah Cheyt Sing was confirmed by the Governor General and Council of Bengal, in the management of the said Zemindary, (subject to the sovereignty of the Company) on his paying a “certain tribute to the Company, which was settled at rupees 22,66,180; and that the Bengal “government pledged itself, that the free and uncontrouled possession of the Zemindary of Benares, and its dependencies, should be confirmed and guaranteed to the Rajah and his heirs for “ever, subject to such tribute; and that no other demand should be made upon him, nor any “kind of authority or jurisdiction exercised within the dominions assigned him, so long as he adhered to the terms of his engagements.”

The grounds of the preceding resolution of the Court of Directors having been thus established, and it having been proved, that the conditions upon which Rajah Cheyt Sing held his Zemindary were fixed and unalterable; it is necessary in the next place to shew what was the conduct of the Governor General and Council to the Rajah, previous to Mr. Hastings's last visit to Benares, in 1781.

On the 9th July 1778, the Board resolved, “That Rajah Cheyt Sing be required, in form, to “contribute his share of the burthen of the present war (with France) by the establishment of “three regular battalions of sepoy, to be raised and maintained *at his expence.*”

Notwithstanding this was, both in the *letter* and *spirit* of the former resolutions of the Council, a direct breach of the agreement, yet the Rajah quietly submitted himself, and authorized his Vackeel to declare his acquiescence, *for one year only*, in the requisition of a subsidy, equal to the expence of three battalions of sepoy. This subsidy was accordingly fixed by the Board at five lacks of rupees; and the Governor General expressed himself pleased with the Rajah's ready compliance, in a letter to him under date of the 15th August; and on the 17th the Governor General and Council informed the Court of Directors, that the Rajah had agreed to pay this subsidy *for one year.* But on the Rajah's pleading his inability to pay the whole sum at once, so little ceremony was used with him on the occasion, and so much were all former agreements forgotten, that, on the 28th September, directions were given to the Resident, Mr. Graham, “to wait on “the Rajah forthwith, and *demand of him*, in person, and by writing, the payment of the full “sum of five lacks of muchildar rupees, the sum at which the subsidy is fixed, in specie, to that “amount, to be made to you within five days of such demand; and declare to him, *in the name of “this government*, that his *evading or neglecting* to accomplish the payment thereof, within that “space of time, shall be deemed equivalent to an absolute refusal; and in case of his non-compliance with your demand, we peremptorily enjoin you *to refrain from all further intercourse with “him.*”

The Rajah completed this payment by the 10th of October.

It must be remarked in this place, that though this extra demand was contrary to the existing engagements, yet as the Rajah consented to the payment thereof, *for one year only*, it was, in a measure, legalized.—And it really seemed at one time to have been the intention of Mr. Hastings to abide by this condition, as appears from the following circumstance: On the 5th May 1779 the Resident at Benares wrote to the Board, that being applied to by the provincial council of revenue at Patna for eight lacks of rupees, on account of their very urgent necessities, he desired the Rajah to supply him with that sum, beyond the amount of what was then due. In their reply to the Resident on the 31st, the Board express their surprise at his “having ventured to make a demand “upon Rajah Cheyt Sing, *not warranted by his engagements with the Company*, and without any “authority from us.” The Resident's answer of the 10th June following is worthy of particular attention. “At the time I mentioned to Rajah Cheyt Sing the sum of money government stood “in need of for their present occasions, I was well aware that I could neither *consistent with your “Honourable Board's orders*, nor *his engagements with the Company*, demand more of him than was “thereby authorized; and therefore it was I only *demanded* payment of the amount of his kist due “the 4th May, and left it to his *discretion*, upon the information given, whether to *lend* further “assistance or not.”

Though the condition of his compliance with the demand of 1778 was, *that it should not be drawn into a precedent*, yet on the 19th July 1779, the Rajah was again required to contribute the further sum of five lacks for the ensuing year; and on the 22d June 1780 five lacks more; and on the 2d of November following, he was required to furnish part of his cavalry.

On the 18th July, the very day preceding the resolution of the Board to demand an additional five lacks for the year 1779, Mr. Hastings received a letter from the Rajah, saying, that his sole reliance was on him, “and that in every instance I depend on your *faith, religion, promises*, and “*actions.*”

After

After he had come to the knowledge of this demand, the Rajah wrote to the Governor General as follows: "Last year you directed Sheik Ally Nuckey \* that I should *by any means, by disposing of my effects, or by borrowing, make this one payment* (alluding to the demand of 1778) and I *should not be called upon in future*; and that you would take every means for my advantage and support. I accordingly put in practice every method in my power; and by loans made good the requisition. It is now absolutely out of my power to raise the sum required, and I am therefore hopeful that you will be kindly pleased to excuse me the five lacks now demanded, and *that nothing may be demanded of me beyond the amount expressed in the pottah.*"

This letter was received on the 27th August. On the 28th the Governor General replied to it; and without taking the smallest notice of the Rajah having charged him *with a breach of promise*, he says, "I now repeat my demand, that you do on the receipt of this, *without evasion or delay*, pay the five lacks of rupees into the hands of Mr. Thomas Graham, who has orders to receive it from you, and authority, in case of your refusal, to summon the two battalions of sepoy, under the command of Major Camac, to Benares, that measures may be taken *to oblige you to a compliance*; and this case, *the whole expence of this corps from the time of its march will fall on you.*"

The Rajah, notwithstanding the positive terms of the last-recited letter, was yet unwilling to believe, that the "*faith, religion, promises, and actions,*" on which he had placed so much dependence, would all of them prove of no avail. He accordingly addressed another letter to Mr. Hastings, which was received the 20th of September, and of which the following is a copy:

"Every two or three days, I am called upon to pay five lacks of rupees; your gracious letter on this subject, honoured me by its arrival; I have dispatched an arzee in answer, which will have been presented to you. In obedience to your order, I last year, by every means, and borrowing from all quarters, raised the sum, and at that time, *you promised that it should not happen again*. I have it not in my power at present. You have before honoured me with the title of son, and regarding me as your son, you have protected me; I am therefore hopeful, *that I may be excused from this requisition.*"

Here the Governor General is again charged *with a direct breach of promise to the Rajah*. Mr. Hastings replied to this on the 25th, repeating the threat of sending troops into his country, but taking no notice, as before, of the repeated charge of having broken his word with the Rajah.

Thus upon the Rajah's declaring his inability to comply with the demand of 1779, and pleading the *promise of exemption*, two battalions of sepoy were ordered to march to Benares, to intimidate him; and the Board insisted on his paying the expence of the troops thus sent to second their demand. And on their requiring the balance of the subsidy in October 1780, the Governor General and Council not only again ordered troops to march into his territories, *but they threatened him with a fine of one lack for disobedience.*

Whoever seriously considers the agreement made between Cheyt Sing and the Vizier in 1770; the nature of the subsequent connection between the Rajah, the Vizier, and the Company, formed in 1773, as before described; the force of the minutes and resolutions of the Board upon the sovereignty of Benares being transferred to the Company, as above recited; the solemn declarations which were made to the Rajah on his investiture, as contained in the instructions to the Resident at his court, and in the Governor General's letter to him upon that occasion, which have been already referred to; the line of policy which the Bengal Government had prescribed to itself; and the general tenure by which Cheyt Sing held his country.—Whoever seriously considers all these points, with their relation to each other, must be convinced, that the various demands thus made upon the Rajah were not founded in *justice*; nor are they to be defended by any arguments drawn from the wants and necessities of a Government involved in difficulties, or the reputed wealth and prosperity of the Rajah.

Obliging the Rajah to pay an additional subsidy of five lacks for the expence of three battalions of sepoy, could only be justified upon the plea, that by the original agreement he was to maintain a body of 2,000 horse. But it has been shewn, that the Board refused to assent to this proposition. They left it entirely *optional* in the Rajah; and if at any time they needed the assistance of this force, he was to be paid at the rate of fifteen rupees per month per man; and so in proportion for the officers, during the time they might be in the Company's employ.

\* His Vackeel.

One of the members of the Board (Mr. Francis) declares in his minute of the 14th September 1778, "That he did, from the first, express a doubt, whether the Board had strictly a right to encrease their demands upon the Rajah, beyond the terms which they originally agreed to give him, which he consented to, and which, as Mr. Francis has constantly understood it, were made the fundamental tenure by which he held his Zemindary. If such demands can be encreased upon him at the discretion of the superior power, *he has no rights, he has no property, or at least he has no security for either.* Instead of five lacks, *let us demand fifty*; and whether he *refuses, or is unable to pay the money, the forfeiture of his Zemindary may be the immediate consequence of it, unless he can find means to redeem himself by a new treaty.*"

There was but too much of a prophetic spirit in this minute of Mr. Francis; for notwithstanding in the credentials given to the Governor General and Council, (consisting only of himself and Mr. Wheeler) the 3d July 1781, previous to his setting out on his intended journey to Benares, the arrangements he was to make in that province, were to be "*consonant to the mutual relation and actual engagements subsisting between the Company and the Rajah*;" it appears from the evidence of Mr. Wheeler, that Mr. Hastings had actually come to the secret resolution (for it is nowhere entered on the records) without the smallest regard to that relation *and to those engagements, of obtaining 40 or 50 lacks of rupees from this very Rajah; and in case of his refusal, he determined either to remove him from his Zemindary entirely, or by taking immediate possession of all his forts, to obtain out of the treasure deposited in them, the above sum for the Company.*"

This is further corroborated by the affidavit of Major Palmer, the Governor General's military Secretary, with this additional circumstance, that by some means or other the Rajah, having heard of the Governor General's intentions, *had made him an offer of 20 lacks of rupees for the public service*; "but that he, the Governor General, was resolved to *insist upon the first mentioned sum of 50 lacks of rupees*; and if the Rajah should absolutely refuse the demand, that he, the Governor General, *would deprive him of his Zemindary, or transfer the sovereignty thereof to the Nabob Vizier.*"

It is said, that the "Governor General thought the Rajah's offences were such as to require early punishment; and as *his wealth was great, and the Company's exigencies pressing*, it was thought a measure of *policy and justice* to exact from him a large pecuniary mulct for their relief."

But how different were Mr. Hastings's ideas of policy and justice at a former period, which has been already referred to, when he would not suffer the Vizier to "dispossess the Rajah of the forts of Luteefgur and Bidgygur, and take from him ten lacks of rupees!" At that time the Governor General was convinced "that the Rajah's inheritance, and perhaps his life, were no longer safe than while he enjoyed the *Company's protection*, which (says the Governor General) is his due by the *ties of justice and the obligations of public faith*, and which *policy enjoins us to afford him ever most effectually.*"

Thus, in 1773, the natural sovereign of Rajah Cheyt Sing is prevented from taking from him two forts and 10 lacks of rupees *above the stipulated rent*, through motives of *justice and policy*; and in 1781, after the sovereignty had been transferred, though with a reservation of the "just rights of the Rajah" under the former sovereign, *justice and policy* required that his new sovereign should exact from him 40 or 50 lacks of rupees *more than his rent*, or wrest from him the *whole of his Zemindary*!

If *justice and policy* were to be the guide of Mr. Hastings's actions upon this occasion, they ought to have operated more strongly than ever in the Rajah's favour. As to the first, were we not bound to him by additional obligations? And as to the last, it was surely become more our interest to cement his attachment by gentle treatment, than when he was only an ally. For in his new situation, had he been, on any future rupture with the Nabob of Oude, from ill usage, induced to take part against us, we should not only have lost the benefit of his alliance, but also a clear annual revenue of upwards of 260,000*l. per annum.*

But wherein did the Rajah's *delinquency* consist? not in his want of punctuality in the payment of his tribute; this has never been affirmed. It must consist then, in his not complying with the repeated demands of the Board for a subsidy, contrary to the existing engagements. Let it be ad-

\* Vide Governor General's Narrative.

† Narrative, Appendix.

‡ Narrative.

mitted that the Rajah discharged these with that reluctance which ever attends the liquidation of unwarrantable demands, yet there was nothing due on any of these new demands for months preceding the Governor General's journey to Benares.

The demand of 1778 was made in July, and wholly discharged by the 10th of October.

That of 1779 was likewise made in July, and wholly discharged by the 21st of October; and in November the Rajah paid 20,000 rupees for the expence of the detachment *sent to enforce this demand.*

The demand of 1780 was discharged by the 18th of October; and whoever reads the charges brought against the Rajah, as contained in the Governor General's first letter to him, after his arrival at Benares, which is printed in the Narrative, must be convinced that they were clearly refuted by the Rajah's answer.

As to the third resolution of the Court of Directors, it was merely a resolution of fact, founded on the proceedings of the Bengal Government, in July 1775, and went to shew the independency of the Rajah's situation. The following passage, therefore, in the Governor General's letter, seems utterly unintelligible.

"I deny that I ever required him to keep up a body of 2,000 horse, contrary to the declaration made to him by the Governor General and Council, on the 5th of July 1775, that there shall be no obligation on him to do it."

It is equally unnecessary to remark on Mr. Hastings's denial, respecting the 4th resolution.— This is likewise a resolution of fact, that the Rajah was regular in the payment of his tribute, and what is not denied by the Governor General. The Court have acknowledged the sovereignty of the Company over the Rajah in their 2d resolution. But, that the Governor General and Council had a right to issue any orders *in direct violation of the actual agreement subsisting with the Rajah*, no one who seriously considers the nature of that agreement, in all its circumstances, will venture to assert.

But with respect to the last resolution of the Court of Directors, every one must join issue with the Governor General, and agree, that from the premises which have been already established, in the former part of these observations, "the terms *improper, unwarrantable, and highly impolitic*, are much too gentle. *The strict performance of solemn engagements on one part, followed by acts directly subversive of them, and by total dispossession on the other, stamps on the perpetrators of the latter, the guilt of the greatest possible violation of faith and justice.*"

The observations on what has fallen from Mr. Hastings, respecting the resolution of the Court of Directors last spoken of, must not be dismissed without a remark on the following passage in the Governor General's letter :

"I deny that Rajah Cheyt Sing was a native prince of India. Cheyt Sing is the son of a collector of the revenue of that province, which his arts, and the misfortunes of his master, enabled him to convert to a permanent and hereditary possession."

Though it is no where asserted in the resolutions of the Court of Directors, that Cheyt Sing was a native prince of India, yet it may not be improper to observe, that, with regard to Cheyt Sing's predecessor, Bulwant Sing, who is here called "*a collector*," it has already been shewn, that for the powerful military assistance which he afforded the Company in the war with Sujah Dowlah, Mr. Hastings was, in 1773, empowered to renew, in behalf of Rajah Cheyt Sing, the stipulation which was formerly made with the Vizier in favour of the father. And in a letter from Rajah Shitabroy, which is entered upon the Bengal Consultation of the 21st of November, 1764, Bulwant Sing is called, a "*person of high rank, and the Zemindar of a frontier country.*"

With respect to Cheyt Sing, Mr. Hastings himself has called the Zemindary "*his inheritance.*" In the instrument printed by the Governor General, 15th of April 1776, he is termed "*the great Chief Rajah Cheyt Sing Behadre.*" By the instructions to the Resident at Benares, of the 24th of August 1775, he was to be invested "*with a kullaut in his palace, with all the usual formalities.*" And by the Resident's account of this matter, the ceremony was performed in all the parade of Eastern magnificence. But here another, and a more striking circumstance, may be added in proof of the Rajah's elevated situation. On the 24th of November 1775, Lieutenant Colonel Parker, who had the command of a brigade in the neighbourhood of Benares, acquainted General Clavering, that the Rajah had paid him a visit, and had made him presents, "*which,*"

" (says he) I did not reject, as it would be looked upon as the greatest slight I could offer to an *Eastern Prince*." This letter was laid before the Council on the 6th of December. And so far was Mr. Hastings from being disposed, at that time, to dispute the rank which Mr. Parker thought he had among the Princes of Hindostan, that he immediately gave it as his opinion, " That neither the Rajah ought to have made the presents, nor Colonel Parker accepted them, because they were the pledges and marks of *inferiority* of the giver to the receiver; and I think it will become both the *justice* and *dignity* of this Board, to lay down such rules as shall prevent the Rajah hereafter from subjecting himself, or being subjected to ceremonies *unbecoming his rank and character*." Upon which the Board resolved, that the Rajah should pay the first visit to none but the Governor General, the Chief Justice, and the members of the Board.

Such as are still doubtful of Cheyt Sing's elevated station, are referred to the 33d and 34th pages of Mr. Hastings's printed letter, where there is as strong an implication of his princely rank, as it is possible for words to convey.

With the same view of lowering in the eyes of the public the real standard of Cheyt Sing's situation, the Governor General says, in his printed narrative, " I suspect that the deeds which passed between him and the Board, on the transfer of the Zemindary to the Company, in 1775, are by many understood to bear the quality and force of a *treaty of optional conditions* between equal States. To such I reply, that such an opinion is itself criminal to the State of which he was a subject; and that he was himself amenable to its justice, if he countenanced the belief. He paid no *tribute* to the Company, but a fixed annual *rent*. And the instruments for his Zemindary were drawn *precisely* in the same form as instruments of the same denominations interchanged with the *Zemindars of Bengal*."

As to the annual sum which the Rajah was to pay on account of his Zemindary not being to be considered in the light of a tribute, it is termed so, with very few exceptions, from one end of the records to the other; in most of the letters from the Council to the Court of Directors, which speak of the subject, and even in the Governor General's own letter to the Rajah on his investiture.

With regard to his being looked upon as a mere Zemindar, the Resident at the Court of the Vizier, in a letter written to the Board, the 14th April 1775, which was previous to the sovereignty of Benares being vested in the Company, declared to his Excellency, " That he must expect to see Cheyt Sing protected; for that he was not to be put *on a footing with his other Zemindars*." And in a letter from the Board to the Resident at Benares, the 30th May 1776, it is acknowledged, " That he is on a *very different footing* from other Zemindars."

But a perusal of the following minute of the Board, will put the matter beyond dispute.

*Consultation, 4th September, 1775,*

" The Secretary informs the Board, that the Sunnuds for the Rajah Cheyt Sing being prepared, he circulated the following proposal of the Governor General for their opinion :

" The Governor General directs me to request the opinion of the Board, whether the Pottah, Sunnud, and Coulnama, for the Zemindary granted to Rajah Cheyt Sing, should be signed by him alone, or by the Board; remarking, at the same time, that it has been customary for *Duanny Sunnuds* to receive only the signature of the Governor; but he thinks, that as the *nature* of the present grant is *different*, and may be considered more in the light of a *TREATY*, they should be signed by the Board."

" Agreed, that the Sunnud, Pottah, and Coulnama, be now signed, and transmitted to Mr. Francis Fowke."

But to sum up the whole in a few words :—In 1765, Bulwant Sing, on account of military services rendered to the Company, was, through their means, secured in the possession of his country. In 1770, Cheyt Sing, his son and successor, was confirmed in the government of his father's territories, on paying a fixed tribute, by a treaty executed by the Vizier, declaring the terms of it to extend to the *posterity of either party*; under which treaty Mr. Hastings, from motives of justice and policy, would not suffer the Vizier to take from the Rajah more than the stipulated sum. In 1773, the former agreement was renewed between the parties, which, as before, was to extend to *their respective heirs*. To this agreement Mr. Hastings, on the part of the British Government, was the guarantee. In 1775, the sovereignty of Benares was transferred to the Company;

Company; and with a reservation of the just rights of the Rajah, and a due regard to the actual engagements subsisting with him, new sunnuds were issued in consequence of sundry resolutions of the Bengal Council, adopted with a view to the Rajah's independency, thereby establishing a strong barrier to the Company's provinces. Assurances were at the same time given to the Rajah that no demands of any kind should be made upon him beyond his tribute, and that no one should be suffered to disturb the peace of his country. In 1778, regardless of former assurances, and in direct opposition to the established policy, an additional demand was made upon him of five lacks of rupees, on account of the war with France. In 1779, notwithstanding his consent was for one year only, and his insisting that he had a promise from Mr. Hastings, that it should not be repeated, and which was not contradicted by him, another demand was made for five lacks more, and troops were ordered into his territories to enforce this demand, the expence of which he was obliged to defray. In 1780 the demand was repeated; and notwithstanding the Rajah had actually discharged all these extra-demands, and was ever punctual in the payment of his settled tribute; yet in 1781 Mr. Hastings repaired to his capital, with an avowed intention to exact from him the enormous sum of fifty lacks of rupees, (though the Rajah, hearing of his intention, had previously made him an offer of twenty lacks) and in case of his refusal, to dispossess him of his Zemindary. He was arrested in his palace at Benares, a city held in the highest veneration throughout India. His own foldiers overpowered the party which guarded him, and in the confusion "the Rajah" found means to escape through a wicket, which opened to the river, and the banks being exceedingly steep in that place, he let himself down by turbans, tied together, into a boat which "was waiting for him, and conveyed him to the opposite shore\*." Several actions afterwards took place between the troops of the Company and those of the Rajah; and his several forts, to which he had fled for protection, were successively captured by our forces. And as (according to Mr. Hastings) "the existence of a fugitive chief in the wilds and mountains would be little regarded, when he was expelled from the capital of his government, and the seat of his collections†;" he was proscribed by public proclamation; the Rauge‡ was conferred on the grandson of Rajah Bulwant Sing, by a daughter married to Bauboo Doorgbejey Sing, and the unfortunate Rajah Cheyt Sing (*a wretch § indeed!*) is now a wanderer in Hindostan!

It only remains to observe, on the conclusion of Mr. Hastings's letter, where, in the same spirit of disobedience to the orders of the Company which has too long characterized his government, he declares his intended opposition to any directions which may be given him for the restoration of Rajah Cheyt Sing to the Zemindary of Benares.

Whether such a measure be expedient, or not, will probably be the subject of future consideration. And as the Company's affairs are now under the investigation of Parliament, it must be the wish of every one, that such regulations may be formed, and such fundamental principles established, for the future government of the Company, as will ensure to the natives of India, of all denominations, that security and happiness which they have a right to enjoy under the influence of the mild and equitable spirit of the British Government.

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*EXTRACT of Court's Letter to Bengal, dated the 28th January, 1784.*

Par. 7. **W**E must not suffer the Governor General's letter, relative to our resolutions about Cheyte Sing, to be passed over in silence, wearing, as it does, the appearance of animadversions on the conduct of his superiors, not to be justified in his situation.

8. The Court of Directors have not only an undoubted right, but their duty calls upon them to condemn any measure that shall appear of a dangerous tendency; the conduct towards Cheyte Sing was, in their eye, liable to destroy *that* confidence so necessary to be preserved with the country powers; the Court therefore hoped, by their marked disapprobation, to prevent any steps of the like kind in future. After the resistance which the Rajah had made, no countenance could be consistently shewn him; nor was any measure for his restoration ever proposed. But whilst the Governor General remains subject to the orders of the Court of Directors, he is bound to yield to their decrees. Therefore as his letter, addressing them with such unguarded warmth, must carry with it the appearance of tending to resist those whom it is his duty to obey, we consider him in that respect to have been very blameable. However, we turn aside from this disagreeable subject, to express great approbation at the extraordinary exertions of our Governor

\* Governor General's Narrative.

† Ditto.

‡ Ditto.

§ Vide Governor General's Letter.

General and Council, to counteract the designs of our numerous enemies, and to furnish such large assistance and supplies for the Carnatic, in its wasted and desolate condition. It is to the abilities of our Commander in Chief, whose loss we sincerely lament, aided by your vigilance and support, we owe the preservation of that country, as the powerful irruptions of Hyder, and the hostile measures of France, had disabled our Governor and Council of Fort St. George from defending the possessions of our Ally the Nabob of Arcot.

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To the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President, &c. Select Committee at Bombay.

Gentlemen,

OUR regret at the unfrequency, or perhaps unavoidable interruption of your correspondence with us upon the affairs of your Presidency, is proportioned to our anxiety for their prosperity, and the critical relation which the conduct of those affairs now bears to the general fortune of Britain in India.

From the commencement of the Mahratta war this Government, under even a change of opinion, had but one line of pursuit, and that was directed to peace. The difference of opinion extended only to the ground upon which that peace should be established and secured. In the first stage of the war, the ruling opinion of this Government, diffident either of the principle upon which it was begun, or of the force with which you conducted it, interposed its pacific check. In the subsequent and actual stage of the war, it was the wish of this Government to enable you to conduct it to an honourable and advantageous termination; a termination which was connected with the proper establishment of the reputation of your arms, and the necessary exclusion of our natural enemies from any footing in your neighbourhood.

It is neither our meaning, nor of present utility, to enter into any discussions of retrospect, much less of accusation. The public interest calls for other measures; and these should be, the union of every sentiment and every ability to make the best of our actual situation, and to secure the public safety amidst the attacks of our numerous enemies.

The late positive orders of our employers, in their commands of the 11th of April last, are, to conclude a peace with the Mahrattas at all events, and to carry the war from your coast into the dominions of Hyder Ally, the avowed ally of our natural enemies, and the most dangerous invader of our possessions.

From the necessity of the times, and obvious line of policy, which dictated those injunctions of our employers, a letter was addressed to you on the 11th September last, signed by Lord Macartney, Sir Eyre Coote, Sir Edward Hughes, and Mr. John Macpherson; that letter was transmitted through the Mahratta minister at Poonah, and it was left to their pleasure to forward it or not, as they adopted the conditions upon which it was to claim your attention,

In October last, we addressed to you a letter through the communication of our Governor General, who was then at Benares, and whom we vested with the fullest powers of this Government to correspond with you upon the subject of a peace to be concluded with the Administration at Poonah.

Copies of the joint letter from Fort St. George of the 11th of September last—of the letter upon the same occasion to the Peshwah—of the letter from the Court of Directors in April last—and of our letter to the Governor General in October, and of that addressed by us to you through him, as well as of his instructions to Mr. Anderson, who is appointed Minister Plenipotentiary upon the part of this Government to Poonah, go numbers with this letter.

The purpose and object of those respective papers is clear and definitive. We communicate them to you to impress more forcibly, if possible, upon your minds the general wish, both here and at home, to conclude a peace with the Mahrattas, and prosecute the war more vigorously against Hyder Ally. The separate peace which has been concluded with Scindia will certainly facilitate both those objects: but the first object is become daily more interesting, as experience convinces us that no military efforts from the coast of Coromandel can repel Hyder from the Carnatic,

natic, while that country can afford no subsistence to our army, and while the enemy has undisturbed supplies from his own extensive dominions in his rear.

In this situation, not all the provisions and extra revenue and credit which this Government is able to supply can do more, even when we command the sea, than subsist the army upon the coast of Coromandel, and enable it to march through the desolated tracts of the Carnatic, to meet the enemy where he chuses to stand, and relieve those interior fortresses, which, should they once fall under the dominion of Hyder, would advance the limits of his empire almost to the walls of Fort St. George.

Our enemy may now be said to interpose the Carnatic as a desert between him and our vengeance from that quarter, with the advantage upon his part of keeping us continually in the field without our having the power to improve our situation, even when we defeat him; but with this momentous disadvantage upon our side, that while we are thus situated upon the coast of Coromandel, our European enemies may, if they come in superior naval force, unite with Hyder, to starve us out of our strongest hold in the country. Is there no extrication from this dilemma: We trust there is; nor does there seem to be a moment to lose to decide about the necessary measures for this important end.

It is obvious to the plainest judgment, that the first necessary step to the relief of the Carnatic must be an interruption to these supplies which enable Hyder Ali to keep the field with such decided advantages. The quere then is, Whether it is most expedient to leave our posts in the Carnatic unprotected, and, while we are superior at sea, to embark our troops from Fort St. George to invade Hyder upon his own coast? or, supposing it should be found impracticable to effect a peace with the Mahrattas by any formal stipulations, that you should relinquish all the countries upon the continent that you cannot maintain if a considerable part of your army is withdrawn; and, that after garrisoning Bombay and other posts effectually, that you should, with the remainder of your forces, make an exertion against Hyder Ali where he is most vulnerable, in his own dominions?

In a political situation, such as we are in at present, it is often necessary, without yielding to any despondence, to have in view the worst turn that affairs may be likely to, or can possibly take, in order to be prepared for the event.

Let us then suppose that every advance we make to peace with the Mahratta administration shall only tend to raise their demands, and encourage their insolence; that they may exact conditions which we cannot in honour accede to; and that while Ragoba is, in any shape, under our protection, or the administration that first espoused his cause continued at Bombay, the ministers at Poona may not think themselves sure in any peace that our present necessities may dictate.

Let us suppose farther, that any connection with either, or even their hopes from the aid of France, may encourage them to look beyond the recovery of those possessions which they have lost in the war; and, in a word, that neither our management in negotiation, or the fears of our resentment, can obtain for us an immediate peace with Poona: under these suppositions, the most unfavourable that can be advanced, it is of moment to determine, whether our withdrawing from the Mahratta war, under the reputable cover of orders from home, is not preferable to the carrying it on feebly,—while a war, not of conquest, but of self-defence, presses hard upon the existence of our influence in a quarter where, if the influence is lost, it cannot be easily regained as in your neighbourhood.

To suppose that this Presidency, or the abilities of the Company, can support the Mahratta war, so as by conquest (at the expence General Goddard has stated) to enforce a peace, and at the same time defray the expences of the defensive war in the Carnatic, is to suppose an impossibility, and under visionary hopes to embrace a system that would inevitably endanger all our possessions in India.

If this position then is true, it follows clearly, that if we cannot effect an immediate peace with the administration of Poona, we ought, in prudence, and independent even of the command of our employers, to desist from the Mahratta contest at all events, and turn our whole force against Hyder.

The solid principle upon which such a determination becomes necessary, is this: If the Carnatic is lost, our enemies must be immoveably established there, and the valuable possessions of this government are afterwards exposed, notwithstanding their natural security, to the operations of

an enemy most advantageously situated; an enemy that might then choose its season of attack, if superior at sea, or successful in raising enemies upon our western and northern frontiers.

Whereas, if every place and possession dependent on the island of Bombay was lost, future efforts, supported from the Carnatic and this country, might regain them at any favourable crisis.

We have thus, gentlemen, we hope, with attentive and unpresuming discussion, gone over the ground of a very interesting alternative, which presents itself in our present involved situation.

Prepared for every disappointment that can happen in the present general hostility that is armed against us, we wish to avoid delusive systems of hope; but we are fortified against either despondence, or an undignified and timid pursuit of peace.

From a separate letter we address you, it will appear, that we are anxious to have an exact state of your debts, of your actual resources and disbursements, and likewise of your probable resources and disbursements for the ensuing year, with the best estimate you can send us of the investment you mean to send home to the Company, and an account of the bills you have drawn upon them. We have requested the same information from the Presidency of Fort St. George.

With these lights before us, and a view of our own resources and necessary disbursements, we shall have a pretty just idea of the faculties which the Company possesses, to carry on the contests in which they are engaged.

Confident that our zeal, if not our management, shall entitle us to the fair opinion of our country, and resolved rigidly to retrench every possible expence that can be saved, consistent with the most vigorous system of carrying on unavoidable branches of the war, we shall have no apprehension of wanting resources, while the property of our fellow subjects in this country, and the credit not only of our immediate employers, but of the power that constituted our present authority, can command finance.

The object that is at stake is the preservation of India to Great Britain, with those consequent advantages, which the Asiatic dominions of the state may hereafter be capacitated to refund for the relief of the whole empire.

In the exertions to maintain so valuable a branch of the Empire, a great and enlightened nation will soon discriminate the merit of real services, from either the parade of affected zeal, or that cold reserve of duty which hedges itself within the letter of orders, while public ruin is accumulating.

Permit us to hope, Gentlemen, That, sensible of the general danger, and animated with a consequent zeal, you will assist us cordially in the great object which we have thus variously stated to you; that of effecting, either by a defensive system with the Mahrattas, and an offensive plan of operation against Hyder, the essential purposes of a peace with the former, and a war with the latter.

Should Major General Meadows (who deserves so well of the Company in particular, and of his country in general, for resolving to come to the relief of India) arrive upon your coast, you will find him very able and willing to co-operate with you upon this system; and should any untoward accident prevent the speedy and safe arrival of Mr. Anderson at Poonah, you and General Goddard will please to peruse most attentively along with this letter, the Governor General's instructions to Mr. Anderson, as well as the instructions to Mr. Chapman, who is deputed to Nagpoor, you will then comprehend fully the decided and united wishes and resolutions of this government.

You will observe particularly, that the Governor General's instructions go to a Cession of all that can be yielded for peace. To deliver up Ragoba, or annul our treaty with Fatty Sing, he justly considers as conditions that cannot be granted, for the public dishonour which such acts would stamp upon our national character. An Assent to have such a dishonour connected with the reputation of English Councils, would be weakness, and that weakness would occasion new and unanswerable demands. But it is the address of negotiation, and the wisdom of states to contrive, in difficulties such as these, a remedy that may obviate the embarrassment, and yet preserve

preserve every necessary dignity of proceeding. From General Goddard's letter to your Board from Surat, in September last, it appears that Ragoba was in separate negotiation with the ministers of Poonah for a maintenance to himself, and he has upon many former occasions shewn a wish to leave you. Those wishes might not only be permitted, but indulged and encouraged, and, in that event, the obstacle removes itself. The conduct of Fatty Sing must be singularly meritorious as a native ally, if occasions do not occur where the annulling of the treaty would not be his own act and deed. In a word, Gentlemen, when the wishes of a government correspond forcibly with the public necessity, difficulties such as these we have supposed are made to vanish; and in the question we have thus discussed, there is one evident and relieving alternative which we have already stated—a defensive relinquishment of the Mahratta contest upon your side of India, which is in a manner tantamount to a peace with them by any formal surrender of all your continental acquisitions. Nor let us be disinclined to this alternative, from false ideas relative to those reflections which may in general be thrown out regarding the supposed misfortunes, mismanagements, and losses of this war from the beginning.

Were we disposed to enter into such discussions, observations might not be found wanting, to shew that good as well as evil consequences have followed from the war. One consequence has, we hope, certainly followed, and which is of infinite importance; that is, the tranquillity of these provinces from Mahratta invasion, maintaining during the war, and probably secured in future, from the impression which our arms have made in the heart of Hindostan.

In the preceding view of this question, it cannot escape you, that we have supposed the most unfavourable possible turn to the negotiation. We have done so purposely to leave no room for a misconception of our wishes; and that you should be prepared to adapt your measures to the general system, in the worst event of the Mahratta negotiation. Our real hopes are, that our Governor General shall, before this letter arrives at Bombay, have concluded not only a peace with the Poonah administration, but have arranged with them a treaty offensive against Hyder. We know that the ministers at Poonah have exhausted their treasures in the continuance of the war: That it has been a most ruinous war to their whole general system of controul over the revenues of India: But the Mahratta Empire is now broken, and we trust for ever, into separate states; and they have suffered so much in the dispute, that they will avoid war with us in future, and what is more essential, be so deterred from any European connection, that our natural enemies must remain excluded from any alliance with them that could be hurtful to our possessions.

To avoid the evils which we apprehend from a continuance of the Mahratta War, in our present situation with other enemies, and to avail ourselves of every advantage that your co-operation can give to the general system of affairs, is the ardent object of this full and candid address; as well as to obviate every possible embarrassment that may be created by a difference of opinion, or a reference to what is past, against our present operations.

We trust that our labour is not in vain, and that what is dictated by a most anxious zeal for the general relief of our affairs, will not be perverted to any little purpose of remark, but carry an effectual impression to your councils.

We observe to you, more for the sake of that form which candour requires, than from any possible apprehension that we shall have occasion to disprove of your future measures, or find fault with your inactivity, that we are unanimously and unalterably resolved to exert every authority of this government to enforce a correspondence of political system in all the Presidencies, and upon the foundation of the Company's orders; nor, in case of evident failure or neglect in any branch, shall we think a common proceeding sufficient. Before that power to which we wish our own conduct to be submitted, and which established our controuling authority, we are determined to hold forth, under special accusation, whatever conduct may in our opinion merit to be impeached.

Happy shall we be, on the other hand, to have occasion of marking to the notice of the Company and our country, those measures which may reflect lustre upon the discharge of the trust with which you are vested, and which, in the present most interesting situation of the state must, in the sensibility connected with a conscious fidelity and zeal, convey a gratification beyond every other advantage that situation can obtain or bestow.

We have, &c.

Fort William,  
26th December 1787.

\*(Signed) Governor General and Council.

\* Signed by Mr. Wheeler and Mr. Macpherson.

COPY

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**COPY of the Minute of the Court of Directors, conveying their  
Unanimous Thanks to Mr. Hastings, on the the 28th of June 1785.**

**T**HE Court being informed that Warren Hastings, Esquire, late Governor General of Bengal, was attending, in order to be introduced to the Court;

It was moved, and, on the question,

**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY,** That the Chairman be directed, in the name of the Court, to congratulate Governor Hastings on his safe arrival, and to return him the thanks of this Court, for the long, faithful, and able services he had rendered the Company.

Mr. Hastings being then introduced,

The Chairman addressed him to the purport of the above resolution.

Mr. Hastings expressed his happiness, in having for his uniform endeavours to promote the Company's interests been thus amply rewarded, by the distinguished honour now conferred on him; and then withdrew.

East India House,  
the 30th March 1786.

A true Copy.

THOMAS MORTON,  
Secretary.

**END OF THE FOURTH VOLUME.**

